THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

BENGALURU • MONDAY • DECEMBER 08, 2025 • ₹9.00 • PAGES 18 • LATE CITY EDITION

READ SHARE FOLLOW
newindianexpress.com
facebook.com/thenewindianxpress twitter.com/newindianxpress
instagram.com/newindianexpress

## FORMULA ONE: DREAM COMES TRUE FOR NEW KING NORRIS

**McLaren's British driver Lando Norris navigates tricky test in season-closing Abu Dhabi GP on Sunday to clinch his maiden F1 crown**

### EMOTIONAL BRIT ENDS MAX'S DOMINANCE

A tearful Norris won the title by two points ahead of Red Bull's Max Verstappen, who relinquished his crown after four consecutive years, in a tense and emotional season-ending race dominated by strategy and tactics. Max, despite finishing on top of the podium, fell just short in the overall equation as Norris finished third to seal the deal | P13

### CHAMP THRIVES UNDER PRESSURE

- The 26-year-old showed great discipline and patience as he executed his race under extreme pressure knowing that any error could gift the title to Verstappen or teammate Oscar Piastri
- A journey that began with kart racing when he was eight years old, Norris became Britain's first F1 world champ since 2020

**423**

**NORRIS FINISHED WITH 423 POINTS WHILE VERSTAPPEN ENDED WITH 421**

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

Fireworks during dance performance likely caused blaze; nightclub did not have fire safety clearance; owners on the run; probe ordered

A videograb of the fire in Arpora in North Goa late on Sunday. Eyewitnesses said the nightclub did not have well-defined exits | EXPRESS

# 25 killed in blaze at packed Goa nightclub

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @Mumbai

A massive fire tore through a jam-packed nightclub in North Goa around midnight on Sunday, killing at least 25 people, including five tourists and 20 employees of the club.

The club, 'Birch by Romeo Lane' at Arpora, 25 km from Panaji, did not have the mandatory fire department no-objection certificate. Since the club stands in the backwater of Arpora river, a narrow bridge leading to it made it tough for panic-stricken tourists to escape, fire officials said.

A preliminary inquiry found that electric firework inside the nightclub was the likely cause of the blaze, Chief Minister Pramod Sawant said, adding that he had ordered chief secretary Dr V Candavelou and DGP Alok Kumar to identify and act against government officials who allowed the club to operate without fire safety clearance.

The club's chief general manager Rajiv Modak, general manager Vivek Singh, bar manager Rajiv Singhania and gate manager Riyanshu Thakur were arrested by the police. Separately, police have launched a manhunt for the club owners — Saurabh Luthra and Gaurav Luthra, who've been named in the FIR.

At least 100 people were on the dance floor at the time of the fire. In an attempt to rush out, some visitors ran downstairs to the kitchen where they got trapped in the blaze along with the staff, said Fatima Shaikh, a tourist from Hyderabad. "There was a sudden commotion as the flames started erupting. We rushed out of the club only to see that the entire structure was up in flames," she said.

Officials said there were no proper exits to the premises.

Police have detained the sarpanch of Arpora-Nagoa Panchayat, Roshan Redkar, who had issued a trade licence to the nightclub in 2013.

President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah, among others, condoled the deaths. An ex-gratia of ₹5 lakh for the kin of each deceased and ₹50,000 for the injured were announced by the CM.

### New rules for Goa clubs

Following the tragedy, the Goa administration has issued an order to all nightclubs, restaurants and bars to maintain a valid fire NOC, enforce occupancy limits, ensure working alarms, detectors and fire-fighting systems, use certified electrical setups and keep exits illuminated

*Deeply pained by the tragic fire incident in North Goa resulting in the loss of lives. My heartfelt condolences. May they find strength during this difficult time. I pray for the speedy recovery*

Droupadi Murmu, President

### Rahul calls for fair probe

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, while extending condolences to the bereaved families, said the tragedy reflected a serious failure of safety measures and governance. "The authorities should conduct a transparent probe to ensure similar tragedies are avoided in the future." P9

# PM to open Vande Mataram debate in LS today

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

THE penultimate week of the Parliament session is set to be very busy, with both Houses set to debate 'Vande Mataram' and the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

On Monday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will open the debate on the 150th anniversary of Vande Mataram in the Lok Sabha, where he is expected to highlight several previously unknown facets of the national song.

The BJP has been allotted three hours for its interventions in the Lok Sabha, while the total debate time will span about 10 hours.

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh is expected to be the second speaker in the debate, which will also feature the participation of Congress Deputy Leader in the Lok Sabha, Gaurav Gogoi, Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Deepender Hooda, Manipur MP Dr Bimol Akoijam, and Praniti Shinde, among others.

The Rajya Sabha will take up the debate on Vande Mataram on Tuesday, with Home Minister Amit Shah leading the discussion. Health Minister and Leader of the Rajya Sabha J P Nadda will be the second speaker.

The debate on Vande Mataram is likely to see fireworks as the Congress and BJP were at loggerheads over the latter's allegations that important stanzas of the national song were dropped in 1937, which sowed the seeds of partition.

While inaugurating the year-long commemoration of Vande Mataram to mark its 150 years, Modi said a "divisive mindset" is still a challenge for India.

In response, the Congress said the PM insulted Vande Mataram, noting that Rabindranath Tagore himself had recommended adopting only the first two stanzas.

The Lok Sabha will take up the debate on SIR on Tuesday and Wednesday. Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi will speak on SIR on Tuesday. He is also expected to raise the issue of 'vote theft' and the accountability of the Election Commission of India.

During the debate on SIR, the Opposition members are also expected to raise suicides of Booth Level Officers reportedly due to intense work pressure related to the voter list re-verification drive.

Key opposition leaders including Congress's K C Venugopal and Manish Tewari, DMK's Kanimozhi, and Samajwadi Party's Akhilesh Yadav are also expected to take part in the discussions.

Passengers looking for their bags in the massive buildup of unclaimed luggage at IGI Airport on Sunday | SAYANTAN GHOSH

# IndiGo flight ops stabilising, cancellations down to 650

S LALITHA @ New Delhi

AIR travel chaos due to IndiGo's operational disruptions continued on Sunday, though the situation appeared to improve with the country's largest airline set to operate 1,650 flights until midnight – up from 1,565 on Saturday and 706 on Friday.

This still resulted in 650 flights across the country being cancelled with hundreds of them delayed by hours.

In a statement, the Ministry of Civil Aviation said air travel operations across the country were stabilising.

"All other domestic airlines are operating smoothly and at full capacity, while IndiGo's performance has shown steady improvement today, with flight schedules moving back towards normal levels. IndiGo's flight operations are likely to reach up to 1,650 by the end of today (Sunday)," its statement read.

To ensure financial protection for passengers, the ministry directed IndiGo to complete refunds for cancelled or severely delayed flights by 8:00 PM on Sunday.

The ministry also asked IndiGo to ensure that no additional fees are levied for rescheduling travel impacted by cancellations.

On how much more refund was pending, an Indigo source said the process of calculating the amount to be refunded was still on.

The ministry also said IndiGo successfully delivered 3,000 pieces of baggage to passengers as of December 6. It had mandated a 48-hour deadline for delivery of luggage separated from flyers due to the flight delay and cancellation chaos.

In an update on the situation, Indigo said its on-time performance shot up to 75% on Sunday from 30% on Saturday.

The airline also said it will "root cause analysis" into flight disruptions.

Meanwhile, the DGCA extended the deadline for IndiGo CEO Pieter Elbers to respond to the show cause notice to Monday 6 pm.

IndiGo sources said the airline would soon respond to the show cause notice. "We are readying our response by explaining the reasons that flights were cancelled and delayed and the steps we are taking to mitigate them," a source said. P2, 12

**REFUNDS BEING PROCESSED**

IndiGo has processed refunds of ₹610 crore so far against cancelled or delayed flights, and delivered 3,000 pieces of baggage to passengers as of Saturday, the civil aviation ministry said

# Boosting ties with India top agenda of US official's visit

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

A top US official is scheduled to visit New Delhi and Bengaluru from December 7 to 11. The visit of US' under secretary of state for political affairs **Allison Hooker** is expected to sharpen the strategic focus of the US-India partnership at a time when both sides are navigating economic friction, geopolitical volatility and rapid technological shifts.

According to the US Embassy, Hooker will prioritise advancing the US-India strategic partnership, deepening economic and commercial ties, expanding American exports, and accelerating collaboration in emerging technologies, particularly artificial intelligence and space exploration. Her visit comes amid renewed efforts in Washington and New Delhi to stabilise ties after weeks of heightened tensions over US' 50% tariff.

Hooker has been closely involved in India engagement in recent months. In September, she met Indian ambassador to the US Vinay Kwatra, as both sides worked to ease friction over trade and energy issues.

In November, Indian public-sector oil companies signed a one-year agreement with US energy majors to import 2.2 million tonnes of LPG, roughly 10% of India's annual LPG imports. Then, India and the US finalised a $946 million sustainment package for the Indian Navy's fleet of 24 MH-60R Seahawk helicopters, strengthening defence industrial ties.

During her stay in New Delhi, Hooker will meet her counterpart Foreign Secretray Vikram Misri, and other senior officials to discuss regional security, economic cooperation and shared priorities in the Indo-Pacific. ISRO VISIT: P2

# No buses, roads, students walk 14km to school and back

KARTHIK K K @ Mysuru

FOR more than 50 school and college students from Pachedoddi, a small village near Hanur taluk of Chamarajanagar district, education is a test of endurance.

With no bus connectivity and no proper road linking their village to nearby towns, students take a punishing 14 km walk every day. They trek 7 km to schools in Ajjipura, Ramanapura and Hanur, and another 7 km to return home.

The route winds through thick forest patches and stretches of uneven, unpaved mud roads that turn treacherous during monsoon.

The fear of encountering wild animals is ever present, as the area falls under the Male Mahadeshwara Wildlife Division, which recently reported the death of a tiger and frequent movement of wildlife.

CONTINUED ON: P6

# BJP may move no-trust motion at B'gavi session

NAUSHAD BIJAPUR @ Belagavi

THE simmering power tussle between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, which BJP claims has crippled the state's administration, is set to overshadow the 14th legislature session that is beginning at Suvarna Vidhana Soudha from Monday.

Though the leadership battle in the ruling party appears to have momentarily cooled, the opposition is preparing to move a no-confidence motion, hoping to politically capitalise on the unrest.

The three-way power struggle among Siddaramaiah, Shivakumar and PWD Minister Satish Jarkiholi has invited sharp criticism from several quarters. BJP argues that governance has taken a backseat as Congress remains preoccupied in its internal power games. While Congress plays down the crisis, BJP is unlikely to let the issue slip, keeping the possibility of a no-confidence motion open in the early phase of the session. P4

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah arrives in Belagavi for the winter session

**EXPRESS READ**

### Gazette notification on unused liquor licence auction likely this week

Bengaluru: The state government is likely to issue the gazette notification on the e-auctioning of 579 unused CL-2A (retail liquor shops), CL-9A (bars & restaurants) and CL11-C (government-owned Mysore Sales International Limited - MSIL) licences "early this week", well-placed sources told *TNIE* | P6

### After eight years, Kerala actress assault case verdict today

Kochi: Eight years after the 2017 abduction and sexual assault of a Kerala actress, the Ernakulam Sessions Court will deliver its verdict at 11 am on Monday. The survivor was assaulted in a moving car by a gang led by Pulsar Suni, who filmed the act; actor Dileep is also an accused | P7

# Venkatesh Prasad swings this one right, elected KSCA prez

Former cricketer Venkatesh Prasad celebrates with his supporters after being elected KSCA president in Bengaluru on Sunday | EXPRESS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

FORMER India pacer BK Venkatesh Prasad was elected president of the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) after elections on Sunday.

Prasad emerged victorious with a margin of 191 votes against KN Shanth Kumar, who was backed by Team Brijesh that was led by former secretary of KSCA, Brijesh Patel. Prasad got 749 votes, while Shanth Kumar 558.

Prasad and others were part of the syndicate Team Game Changers, which bagged four key posts, including that of president, vice-president (Sujith Somasundar), secretary (Santosh Menon) and treasurer (BN Madhukar). BK Ravi of Team Brijesh was elected joint secretary.

During its campaign, Team Game Changers, which was supported by former cricketers Anil Kumble and Javagal Srinath, had made allegations of large-scale mismanagement of KSCA under Brijesh Patel and had accused him of "backseat driving". Patel, however, had rebutted the allegations. P13

**IPL matches will not be shifted out of Chinnaswamy Stadium. We will ensure that the matches are held here** — DK Shivakumar, Deputy Chief Minister

**GERMANY, TOO MANY**

India suffered a 1-5 defeat against holders Germany in the semifinal stage of the ongoing Junior Hockey World Cup in Chennai on Sunday | PTI | P13

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

# BENGALURU

ALMANAC TODAY
• Monday: 08.12.2025 • Year: Vishwavasu • Ayana: Dakhsinayana
• Ritu: Himanth • Masa: Margasira • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Chathurthi 9.07 pm
• Nakshatra: Punarvasu 9.14 am • Moon in Leo Rashi • Rahukaala: 07:30 am to 09:00 am
• Gulikakala: 01:30 pm to 03:00 pm • Yamaganda: 10:30 am to 12:00 pm

WEATHER
MIN 16°C | MAX 28°C
FORECAST
Mostly cloudy.

Sunrise 06.29 am
Sunset 05.53 pm
Moonrise 0948 pm
Moonset 09.33 am

02 BENGALURU | MONDAY 08.12.2025 | newindianexpress.com

## DCM seeks report on city's air quality

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

CONGRESS MLC Dinesh Gooligowda has warned that the Bengaluru's air quality is deteriorating rapidly and that if measures are not taken, the city will become another New Delhi. In a letter addressed to Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar dated December 6, he urged that steps be taken to curb air pollution. Acting immediately on Gooligowda's letter, the DCM directed the chief secretary to set up an expert committee to submit a report on air pollution.

In his letter, Gooligowda, who is also vice-chairman of Karnataka State Guarantee Schemes Implementation Authority, said, "There are 1.2 crore vehicles in Bengaluru for a population of 1.47 crore, with almost every citizen owning a vehicle as a result of which pollution is increasing."

Stating that on average 2,563 new vehicles are getting registered daily in the city, Gooligowda said experts have predicted that in the next 5-10 years, Bengaluru's Air Quality Index (AQI), which is in the 'moderate range' of 50-70, would jump to the 'severe range'.

He demanded that a high-level technical committee be set up, comprising environmental scientists, mobility experts, public health experts, subject experts, along with officials from the pollution board and the state transport department. "The committee must decide the pollution trajectory of Bengaluru for the next decade and recommend immediate and long-term measures to curb pollution. They have to develop a comprehensive clean-air action plan for Bengaluru," the MLC stated.

# 2,878m litres of leachate at 2 landfills to be treated

### Contract given out at Rs 474 crore; four-year deadline set

AKNISREE KARTHIK @Bengaluru

A WHOPPING 2,878 million litres of leachate accumulated at Mittaganahalli and Kannur landfills is finally going to be treated and cleared. The Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Ltd (BSWML) has handed over the contract to treat legacy leachate at these two landfills at Rs 474.80 crore at Rs 1.65 per litre. The contractor will treat high-strength landfill leachate and achieve 'zero-liquid discharge'.

In the notice to proceed with the work, dated December 3, addressed to the lead member, Mukka Proteins Ltd, and other joint-venture members, BSWML has instructed that the treatment and disposal of legacy leachate at both landfills should be completed within four years.

A company representative said the total process involves 16 steps, where treated water is obtained from the leachate for nonpotable and industrial purposes.

"In primary treatment, all solids would be cleared, the pH is neutralised, and the initial chemical oxygen demand (COD) is reduced. Next steps involve biological treatment (activated sludge, anaerobic digestion), where organic matter is broken down. Further the tertiary treatment involves sand and carbon filters and reverse osmosis (RO), where fine solids, organics and salts are removed. The water collected in the treated water tank can be used for industrial and nonpotable purposes," he explained.

He said leachate has to be treated as it is a toxic liquid that can cause severe, long-lasting pollution to water, soil and air, posing a major risk to human health and wildlife.

"Untreated leachate is a hazardous cocktail of various pollutants that can persist in the environment for decades," he said. BSWML officials said the company, which bagged the contract, will set up the leachate treatment plant first and that will take about a year. Later the treatment process will start, the official said. BSWML has given four year's time to the company to treat the estimated 2,878 million litres of leachate, he added.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

> In primary treatment, all solids would be cleared. Next steps involve biological treatment (activated sludge, anaerobic digestion), where organic matter is broken down
>
> —BSWML official

Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar casts his vote in the Karnataka State Cricket Association elections on Sunday | x

### Won't let IPL matches move out of Chinnaswamy Stadium, says DKS

Bengaluru: Amid concerns that M Chinnaswamy Stadium will not host Indian Premier League (IPL) matches, following a stampede that claimed 11 lives in June during celebrations to mark the victory of Royal Challengers Bengaluru (RCB), Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar said, "IPL matches will not be shifted out of Chinnaswamy Stadium. We will ensure that the matches are held here." After casting his votes in the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) elections on Sunday, he told reporters, "This is a question of Bengaluru and Karnataka's pride. We will ensure that the IPL matches are held here." About women's T20 matches, he said, "We will allow all the matches which are going to take place here. I am a cricket fan. We will ensure that such incidents (stampede) don't recur in the future and uphold the reputation of the stadium. We will also build a new cricket stadium as an alternative." **ENS**

INDIGO FIASCO

# Lax regulatory body, lack of state airline led to chaos: Pilot

ANUBHAB ROY @ Bengaluru

THE ongoing IndiGo fiasco has, besides leaving customers belittled, also given rise to important conversations regarding the Indian aviation market and the apparent monopoly of the airline, which holds 63% of the market as of September 2025.

Bengaluru has been one of the Indian metros to be hit hardest, with the situation showing little signs of improvement. What happens when an industry behemoth takes policy for a ride? Between operator and regulator, who rules the Indian skies?

Theoretically, the greater the number of airlines, the more the competition, and lower the chance of a monopoly emerging. A captain associated with the Airline Pilots' Association (ALPA) of India believes that having more airlines is not necessarily the right answer. "What India needs is stricter regulations, and a regulator with a spine. We have rules, but even those are not followed. This would not have happened in any country but India," he asserted.

The claim is backed by the fact that if one assumes IndiGo's delay in enforcing rules pertaining to crews' rest duration has been an "arm-twisting" tactic, as alleged by a statement by Air Line Pilots Association (ALPA), it was successful given the withdrawal of rules by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). The regulatory body went as far as to request pilots to cooperate via a statement released on December 5, instead of holding IndiGo squarely responsible. "Given this situation, we earnestly request the full cooperation of all pilot bodies, associations, and pilots across India," the DGCA statement read. DGCA did, however, issue a show-cause notice to IndiGo on the following day, December 6.

The lack of accountability from the airline is further reflected by its failure to do good on its promise of "full refunds" to ticket holders of cancelled flights with "zero questions asked", with many flyers, including those from Bengaluru, posting receipts of only partial refunds. "My flight from Bengaluru to Bhubaneswar on 5th Dec 6e 411 has been cancelled as intimated by Indigo. But I am not able to select for full refund (sic)," a post on X read.

A pilot asserts that rather than a problem born out of a lack of any state-controlled airline (like Air India had been once upon a time), the mess is due to one of the nation's regulatory bodies being lackadaisical. "The regulator has to impose strict penalties and ensure that the median Indian traveller is not taken for granted," he adds.

#### RULES INDIGO FAILED TO COMPLY WITH

IndiGo failed to introduce Flight Duty Time Limitations (FDTLs) in its roster, which ensure that pilots get enough rest. Fatigue is a well-documented killer, with numerous air crashes throughout the world's aviation history having been attributed to it. Regulatory bodies across the world mandate limited flying hours, allowing sufficient time for pilots to rest.

> What India needs is stricter regulations, and a regulator with a spine. We have rules, but even those are not followed. This would not have happened in any country but India
>
> — Captain, Airline Pilots' Association

## IndiGo cancels 150 flights; KIA overcrowding begins to ease

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

INDIGO'S mass flight disruptions continued into the sixth consecutive day on Sunday, with 151 cancellations, including 76 arrivals and 75 departures, adding to the ongoing travel chaos at Kempegowda International Airport (KIA).

While the unprecedented scenes of overcrowding that turned Terminal 1 into a near-gridlock earlier have begun to ease, normalcy is returning only gradually. Despite the improving situation at KIA, the impact of 75 grounded departures on Sunday continued to be felt. Many passengers remain stranded as their flights were cancelled, waiting for their rescheduled flights or missing baggage.

As travellers scrambled for alternatives, they were forced to pay inflated rates for last-minute flight and bus tickets, with some routes costing more than the usual fare. The railways also is operating special trains, offering some relief, but many remain frustrated, either having missed important commitments or having spent exorbitant amounts just to reach their destinations.

In an official statement on Sunday, IndiGo said 137 of its 138 destinations were operational and it was "on track to operate over 1,650 flights that is up from 1,500 on Saturday with an on-time performance of 75%." The airline added that a full waiver on cancellation or rescheduling fees for travel until December 15 remained in place and that refund and baggage recovery efforts were "in full action."

"We are working round-the-clock to resume normal service," IndiGo said.

## US under secretary to visit ISRO during India trip

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

UNDER Secretary of State for Political Affairs of the United States, Allison Hooker, who will be in India till December 11, will visit the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in Bengaluru.

"Hooker's visit will focus on advancing the US -India strategic partnership, deepening economic and commercial ties — including increasing American exports — and fostering collaboration in emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and space exploration," the U.S. Embassy and Consulates in India said. "In Bengaluru, Under Secretary Hooker will visit ISRO and meet leaders from India's space, energy, and technology sectors to promote innovation in US-India research partnerships and explore opportunities for expanded cooperation," the Embassy added.

The visit, it said, marks another step in advancing President Trump's priorities for a strong US-India partnership and a free and open Indo-Pacific.

# RUSSELL MARKET SET FOR ₹140 CRORE FACELIFT

MOHAMMED YACOOB @ Bengaluru

WITH the iconic Russell Market building set to complete 100 years in 2027, the Bengaluru Central City Corporation (BCCC), under the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), is all set to revamp the market complex by spending Rs 140 crore.

According to BCCC officials, the detailed project report (DPR) involves the demolition of the rear side of the market, including the mutton and fish section, as its structure is reportedly weak. Once reconstructed, the rear block will have two basements and ground plus three floors. The market complex will be connected with Shivajinagar bus stand and Metro station with an elevated pathway.

"The existing heritage structure on the front portion, which has fruit and vegetable shops and a clock tower, will not be disturbed. Once completed, the market will have more than 470 shops. With two basements for parking, the issue of traffic blockade in the area will be solved," said an engineer who was earlier associated with the BBMP and has now moved to GBA.

The engineer said the front portion of the market currently lacks facilities like power, drainage and toilet, and it is in for a major upgrade. Other additions will be ventilation, fire hydrants and a small composting unit to deal with green waste.

"The project, once commenced, will take 18 to 24 months, and since the development will be done in a phased manner, Compartment S4, which prepared the DPR, has suggested that the front side plaza be used for parking for vendors. The DPR costing Rs 45 lakh was completed a few months ago, and the BCCC will soon float a tender for the construction work," said an official attached to the corporation.

With the iconic Russell Market building completing 100 years in 2027, the Central Corporation is all set to develop the market complex | VINOD KUMAR T

## Horoscopes By Holiday

HOLIDAY MATHIS

**08th December : The Price of Mars Square Saturn Everything worthwhile costs something. You feel like you've wandered into one of those high-end stores where they don't bother to attach price tags. But adventure, love, art, travel, success, creative risk -- they all extract their cost in effort, sacrifice or pain, if not dollars. The point isn't to avoid the cost but to accept it consciously. At least get an idea of what it is.**

**ARIES** (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
It's OK to want to move up in the world. But it's also OK -- even smart -- to notice when there is no point in advancing. Take stock of where you are. The next rung up may actually be a step down.

**TAURUS** (Apr. 20 - May 20)
People usually do what seems best at the time. Trouble starts when there's nothing better to do. To give others good options like purpose, work, beauty and belonging is to provide a real service. It changes outcomes more than judgment ever could.

**GEMINI** (May 21 - June 21)
You may not be in the mood, but you'll still show up motivated, kind and fun. Keep giving love. Love inspires action, generosity and humor. It breaks the stagnation. Love is the antidote to stagnation.

**CANCER** (June 22 - July 22)
Wanting food, attention, pleasure or rest is not always self-indulgent. In fact, cravings are actually signals of wisdom from the body and soul saying, "We need this." Your system is intelligent, and it's trying to guide you toward balance.

**LEO** (July 23 - Aug. 22)
What you roll out today charts like a hit single -- catchy, bright and totally you. It's not that the tune is brand-new. It's that your delivery makes it unforgettable. Your energy is a hook the world hums to.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)
You'll give your best because you care about the outcome. If others don't notice, don't retreat. Just remind them. Some people need a little nudge to recognize good work. You'll be glad you spoke up for yourself.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)
Living in a rerun? This scenario has been running a long time, perhaps since childhood. It's unwanted, but it's still familiar -- and therefore, the pattern is comfortable in a weird way. And yet, you can, and will, break it.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21)
You're skilled in one realm and assume success should translate elsewhere, but each world has its own rules. Stay curious, ask questions, and study the lay of the land. When you finally move, it will be with ease and momentum.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
You were made from the same stardust that lights up in your idols when they perform. You only see the qualities you admire in others because those same qualities are also in you. When you celebrate others, you celebrate you.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
Today calls for subtle glamour. Say less, mean more. Mystery draws the eye like light behind a curtain. An artful reveal happens in glimpses. You can feel the room from behind that curtain and sense when to step into view.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
You learned it before: When you ask a question and get no response, that's your answer. Don't wait around. Let it be a liberation and a cue to keep moving. You're working a numbers game here, and you won't have to go much further to get your "yes."

**PISCES** (Feb. 19 - Mar 20)
Seeing others further along might make you wish you'd started sooner, but you're right on time. The fact that you began at all is what matters. Trust in the universal timing.

Solutions to Saturday's puzzle ⬇

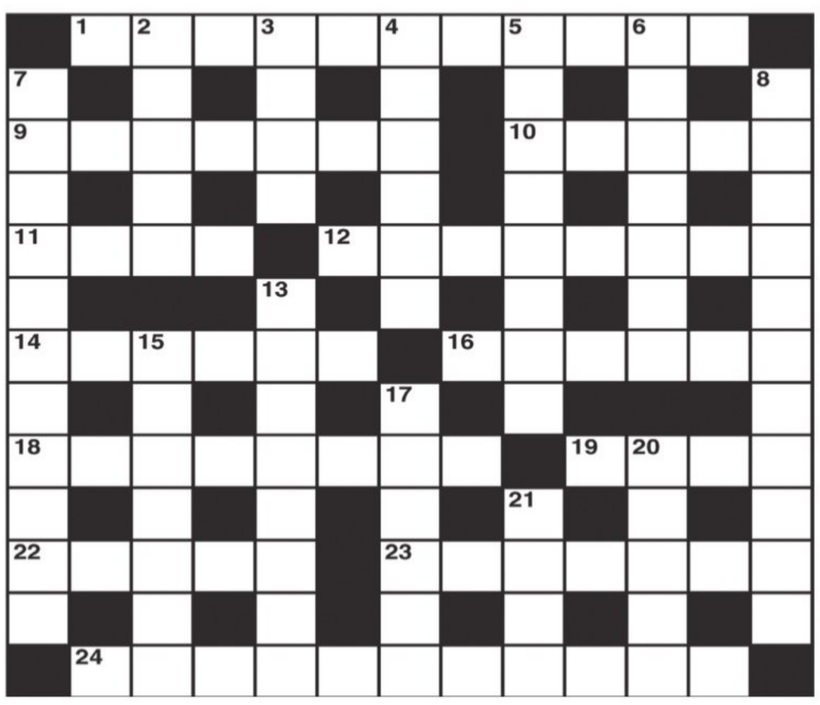
| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | 8 | | 2 | | | 9 | | |
| | 2 | | 1 | | | | 4 | |
| 3 | | 5 | | 4 | | 2 | 7 | 1 |
| 9 | | 4 | | | | 3 | | |
| 2 | | | 4 | | 8 | | | 6 |
| | | 3 | | | | 4 | | 2 |
| 5 | 3 | 9 | | 1 | | 6 | | 8 |
| | 4 | | | | 5 | | 1 | |
| | | 8 | | | 9 | | 3 | 4 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 4 |
| 1 | 6 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 3 |
| 7 | 4 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 8 |
| 6 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 7 |
| 4 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 5 | 9 |
| 3 | 5 | 1 | 9 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 2 |
| 8 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| 5 | 2 | 6 | 3 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 1 |
| 9 | 1 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 2 | 4 | 7 | 6 |

### SUDOKU EASY

**TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE**

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



### CROSS WORD

**ACROSS**

1 They used to drive it in horserace circuits (11)
9 Keep on going when all the others have gone (4,3)
10 It has possibly been stated long ago (5)
11 Heartless head cook (4)
12 A train driver (8)
14 Had a break from the desert (6)
16 Seize some eggs (6)
18 Empty words designed to capture applause? (8)
19 Party back in power in old Scandinavia (4)
22 An inclination to fish (5)
23 Direction to carry on packing (7)
24 Drove one mad it's so mawkish (11)

**DOWN**

2 Undue speed emerges as the trouble (5)
3 Cheat at chess? (4)
4 Wrong place to obtain electrical power (6)
5 Set off in good time towards dawn (8)
6 The purpose in regular payment for old clothes (7)
7 Expert on current problems (11)
8 Unable to span the production schedule? (5-6)
13 Table set perhaps for those who sit tight (4,4)
15 It helps an artiste perform brilliantly (7)
17 Romans upset by a demand for cash (6)
20 Have a drink before the play (5)
21 Money that's taken in after some business (4)

**SATURDAY'S SOLUTIONS**

**Across:** 1 Packet, 4 Sparkler, 9 Israel, 10 Trespass, 12 Tell, 13 Giant, 14 Menu, 17 Newfoundland, 20 Stenographer, 23 Gibe, 24 Spasm, 25 Bass, 28 Exercise, 29 Reward, 30 Satirist, 31 States.

**Down:** 1 Pristine, 2 Corn laws, 3 Ewer, 5 Phrenologist, 6 Rash, 7 Loaded, 8 Rise up, 11 Winning posts, 15 Monte, 16 Annal, 18 Pheasant, 19 Crusades, 21 Depress, 22 Object, 26 Scar, 27 Heat.

### JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

UDEFG

NISYH

SLOCYT

MRTYOS

Sound check may be better if the guitar had strings.
Oops. I got distracted setting up the amps. New strings coming up!
Get the free JUST JUMBLE app • Follow us on Facebook
10 13
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS PLUGGED IN, THE ELECTRIC GUITAR WITHOUT STRINGS WAS ---

©2025 Tribune Content Agency, LLC
All Rights Reserved.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: " ○○○○○ - ○○○○○ "

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumbles: TRUNK SPICY FACTOR PELVIS
Answer: When it came to building their new staircase, getting plans drawn up was the — FIRST STEP

The body of a young man was discovered in a stream, along the Karnataka–Maharashtra border, close to Nipani on Saturday. The deceased is Suhas Thorat (21), a resident of Hatkanangle taluk. The incident happened when a dispute broke out between Thorat and his companions when they reportedly travelled to Nipani on Friday. During the fight, he was attacked with sharp weapons, receiving fatal injuries to his head and neck

Vintage vehicles displayed to create awareness, near Vidhana Soudha, in Bengaluru on Sunday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

# Head constable booked for stealing ₹11L

EXPRESS NEW SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Vidhana Soudha police have registered a theft case against a head constable for allegedly stealing Rs 11 lakh from a seized car parked on the premises of the City Police Commissioner's Office recently.

The head constable, Zabiullah Gudiyal (48), was attached to the Cyber Crime Police Station (CCPS) located within the Commissioner of Police (COP) premises. He has also been suspended.

According to the FIR, a reserve sub-inspector, along with three head constables, including Gudiyal, traced an accused in a cybercrime case near Devanahalli on November 13.

The accused, along with his driver and car, was brought to the CCPS. While he was let free, he was asked to leave his car at the station. On December 1, the accused obtained anticipatory bail. He informed officers that a black bag kept in his SUV contained Rs 11 lakh cash, a mobile, a watch, a gold ring, and other items worth Rs 15 lakh, and that these were missing.

When Gudiyal was questioned, he admitted to having taken the black bag containing Rs 11 lakh cash and other valuables and had kept the same at his residence, the FIR stated. Gudiyal unlawfully took cash and valuables belonging to another person during the investigation, without the knowledge of anyone.

The police said a case has been registered under Section 305 (Theft in a dwelling house, or means of transportation, or place of worship, etc.) of the BNS, and notice will be issued soon to the accused for questioning.

# Three of family killed in accident

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Mandya

THREE members of the same family were killed on the spot after their car hit a bridge on the highway and plunged into a ditch. The accident occurred between Tittanahosahalli and A Nagathihalli in Nagamangala taluk on the Bengaluru-Mangaluru National Highway on Sunday.

The victims are Sarojamma (38), her husband Siddegowda (45), and Savithramma, all from Chikkamagaluru. The accident took place while the trio was travelling from Bengaluru to Chikkamagaluru.

PSI Maruti and personnel from the Bindiganavile police station rushed to the scene. With the help of locals, the bodies of Siddegowda and Sarojamma were shifted to the Adichunchanagiri Hospital mortuary. Later, the body of Savithramma was found in nearby bushes a short distance from where the car had fallen. The body was sent to the same hospital for postmortem.

SP Mallikarjuna Baladandi, Additional SP E C Thimmaiah, DySP B Chaluvaraju, and CPI Hemanth Kumar visited the spot and conducted an inspection. A case has been registered at the Bindiganavile Police station.

# Dr G: Those who support narcotics are not human

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

HOME Minister Dr G Parameshwara on Sunday condemned individuals who promote or support narcotics, stating that they destroy people's lives, future and health.

"Those who promote or support narcotics are not human beings", he said. Emphasising the government's stance against drug abuse, he reaffirmed Karnataka's commitment to becoming a drug-free state.

He was speaking at a vintage car rally organised to support the state's war against drug abuse and peddling at Vidhana Soudha. The Bengaluru City Police organised the event in collaboration with the Federation of Historic Vehicles of India (FHVI) and Paul John Resorts and Hotels.

Hundreds of vintage cars and two-wheelers participated in the rally, which started from Vidhana Soudha and culminated on Mysuru Road. Awareness programmes were also conducted at MG Road Metro Station and other locations.

Before flagging off the rally, Parameshwara said the government's announcement of making Karnataka drug-free cannot be achieved overnight. "We have launched a war against drugs. Since last year, drugs worth more than Rs 300 crore have been seized. Thousands of people have been arrested. Unfortunately, even students who come from abroad for education are getting involved in such crimes," he said.

He further said that drug peddlers have become "so inhuman" that they are visiting schools and distributing narcotics disguised as chocolates. Initially, they are providing free samples to the kids. He added that the Bengaluru City Police are intensifying enforcement measures.

### Teacher arrested for slapping Class 7 boy, later released

Bengaluru: The Hulimavu police have arrested a private school physical education teacher for allegedly slapping a seventh-standard boy on December 4. It is said that the boy had moved his classmate's chair while he was about to sit, following which the classmate complained to the teacher. The accused has been identified as Rajesh (42). The police said that the 12-year-old boy, studying in the seventh standard at a private school located near Hulimavu Lake Road, was allegedly slapped on the cheek by Rajesh in the staff room in the presence of four to five teachers on December 3. The slap caused swelling on the boy's cheek. Instead of sending the child home, the teacher allegedly kept him at the school until 5.30 pm. His father later took him to the hospital for treatment and filed a complaint the next day. A case under Section 115 (voluntarily causing hurt) and the Juvenile Justice Act was registered. The teacher was later released on bail. ENS

# Cops raid houses of 23 KGF rowdy-sheeters

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @KGF

KGF police conducted raids on the houses of 23 rowdy sheeters in the early hours of Sunday under the direct supervision of SP Shivanshu Rajput and DySP Lakshmaiah.

During the operation, the police arrested two persons for possessing lethal weapons and ganja in their residences.

Speaking to *TNIE*, he said the raids were conducted after following all legal procedures. The operation involved five circle-inspectors, 15 sub-inspectors, 120 police personnel, and District Armed Reserve staff. Raids were carried out across various parts of KGF district, including Robertsonpet, Andersonpet, BEML Nagar, Oorgaum, and Bangarpet.

SP Shivanshu Rajput and his team during the raid on Sunday morning | EXPRESS

Rajput said during the raid, rowdy sheeter Abhiseriel (alias Abhi) was found in possession of lethal weapons including a machete, sword, and knife, leading to his arrest. At the residence of Joth (alias Abhishek), police recovered ganja.

Both Abhiseriel and Joth have been booked. Rajput added that such raids will continue in the interest of public safety and to curb the activities of rowdy sheeters.

DySP Lakshmaiah urged residents to approach the police if they face threats or witness illegal activities. He assured that the identities of the informers will be kept confidential.

# Kidwai performs complex bone marrow transplant

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE State-run Kidwai Memorial Institute of Oncology has carried out a complex bone marrow transplant (BMT) on a nine-year-old boy suffering from relapsed Wilms' tumour, a rare kidney cancer, despite the child having only one functioning kidney.

The child was first diagnosed in December 2022 and underwent chemotherapy, surgical removal of the left kidney and radiation therapy. However, the cancer recurred in April 2025.

Doctors decided that high-dose chemotherapy followed by stem cell transplantation. The procedure was performed by Dr Vasundhara Kailasnath.

The case was challenging due to the child's age, prior chemotherapy exposure, single-kidney status and high risk of life-threatening infections. Education Minister Sharan Prakash Patil congratulated the team.

Kidwai received the Human Organ Transplant Act licence for its BMT services, making it one of the few hospitals in Karnataka authorised to carry out such procedures.

Hg. on.23/01/2026

**BEFORE THE LXXXVI ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE (COMMERCIAL COURT), BENGALURU (CCH-87)**

**Com.O.S.No.1207/2025**

**M/s Express Publications (Madurai) Pvt. Ltd,**
No.1, Queen's Road, Bangalore-560001
Represented by its
Senior General Manager;
P. Suresh Kumar
MOBILE No.9995559004 ...**Plaintiff**

**AND:**
M/s Vistara Media Private Limited ...**DEFENDANT**

**UNDER ORDER 5 RULE 20 READ WITH SEC.151 OF THE C.P.C.**

**M/s Vistara Media Private Limited**
"Express Building",
2nd Floor,
No.1 and 1/2, Bale Kundri Circle
Queen's Road, Bengaluru-560001
Represented by its
Promoters/Director
Sri. H.V. Dharmesh

Whereas the plaintiff has filed a suit against the defendant under Section 26 read with Order 7 Rule 1 CPC seeking this Hon'ble Court to pass a judgement and decree for eviction, recovery of arrears of rent sum of Rs. 74,34,000.00 and interest there on at Rs.3,90,285.00; to pay pending maintenance charges, electricity charges and diesel generator charges for a sum of Rs.6,77,622.00 and interest there on at Rs.30,503.00; to pay Rs.2,55,972.00 being the interest as per para 11 of the plaint; to pay future Interest at the rate of 18% pa on Rs.87,88,382.00 as per the para 11 of the plaint; to pay the mesne profits sum of Rs.28,00,000.00 with interest at 18% pa as per para 13 of the plaint; and to pay future mesne profits sum of Rs.14,00,000.00 p.m.at the rate of 18% p.a. Including all charges in respect of the suit schedule premises and for such other reliefs.

You are hereby summoned to appear in this Court (CCH-87) in person or by a pleader on **23/01/2026 at 11 a.m.,** to answer the same, failing which the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of the Court, this 3rd day of December 2025.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

Premises in the 2nd Floor in the building known as "Express Building", bearing Municipal Door No.1 & 1/2, admeasuring 10500 sq. ft. situated at Bale Kundri Circle junction, Queen's Road, Bangalore 560001 and bounded on:

East by : Remaining portion of "Express building i.e., traffic police management office.
West by : Vacant space of "Express Building" & Ambedkar Veedhi
North by : Vacant space of "Express Building" & Bale Kundri Circle junction of Queen's Road
South by : Remaining portion of the "Express Building", open space & Infantry Road

By order of the Court.
Sd/-
Senior Sheristedar
Commercial Court Unit
City Civil Court
Bengaluru

Sd/-
Advocate for the Plaintiff
**S.N PRASHANTH CHANDRA,**
Advocate.,
LAW & OPTIONS
No. 1432/2, SNR Arcade,
Sri Krishnadevaraya Road,
Vijayanagara, Bangalore-560040
9844724172

All the news. In just a click. Log to www.newindianexpress.com
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
/thenewindianxpress @newindianxpress +The New Indian Express

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)
**Bengaluru Anekal Branch**
Opp Post Office Anekal S O
Bangalore-562107

**POSSESSION NOTICE** under Section 13(4)

Whereas The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of the Canara Bank under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (2) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated **16-09-2023** calling upon the Borrower **1.Mr. Narayanappa K,** S/o Kamaiah Bahadurappa, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-562106 (hereinafter referred to as "the Borrower/s") **2. M Doddegowda** S/o Muniyappa, Samandoor Post, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-562106. (herein after referred to as Guarantor) to repay the amount mentioned in the Notice, being Rs. **13,61,026.87 (Rupees Thirteen Lacs Sixty One Thousand Twenty Six and Eighty Seven paisa Only )** within 60 days from the date of the said notice.

The Borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken symbolic possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Section 13(4) of the said Act read with rule 8 & 9of the Said Rule on this **03rd day of December of the year 2025.**

The borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of the **Canara Bank,** for an amount of **13,86,108.37 (Rupees Thirteen Lakhs Eighty Six Thousand One Hundred And Eight and Paisa Thirty Seven Only), as on 03-12-2025** Plus interest & other charges thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

**Description of Immovable Property:**

**Name of Title holder: Sri. Narayanappa K**

All the piece and parcel of the Residential property bearing site no. 86 & 85, Sy. No. 203/2 Thimakka Layout (KSRTC Colony), situated at Anekal town, Bangalore urban District -562106( Off anekal to Hosur) belonging to Sri Narayanappa K **Site no .86 bounded by** On the east: Site No. 85, On the west : Site No. 87, On the North: Site No. 81, On the South : Road , **Site No 85 bounded by** On the East: Site No. 84, On the west: Site No. 86/Same party, On The North: Site No 82, On The South : Road

Date : 03.12.2025
Place : Bangalore
Sd/-Authorized Officer
Canara Bank

सेन्ट्रल बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया
**Central Bank of India**

**BANGALORE CITY BRANCH**
Ground Floor, Grand Majestic Mall, No. 12, 2nd Cross, Gandhi Nagar, Bengaluru - 560 009. Phone : 080 - 22873096 / 97, 8170009816.
E-Mail : bmbang0850@centralbank.co.in

**POSSESION NOTICE UNDER [RULE 8(1)] SARFAESI RULE**

Date : 02-12-2025

Whereas, the **Authorised Officer of the Central Bank of india, Bangalore City Branch** under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(2) and 13(12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a **Demand Notice Dated 20.09.2025** calling upon the borrowers **Mrs. Anitha .K W/o. Mr. Puttaraju C and Mr. Puttaraju .C S/o. Mr. Chinnaswamy .C** to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 71,86,019.15/- (Rupees Seventy One Lakhs Eighty Six Thousand Nineteen and Fifteen Paise) (which represents the principal plus interest due as on the Dt. 20.09.2025),** plus interest and other charges **from 20.09.2025** to till date, within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the entire dues to the bank, notice is hereby given to the Borrower, the Co-Borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13(4) of the said Act, read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rule 2002 on this **02-12-2025.**

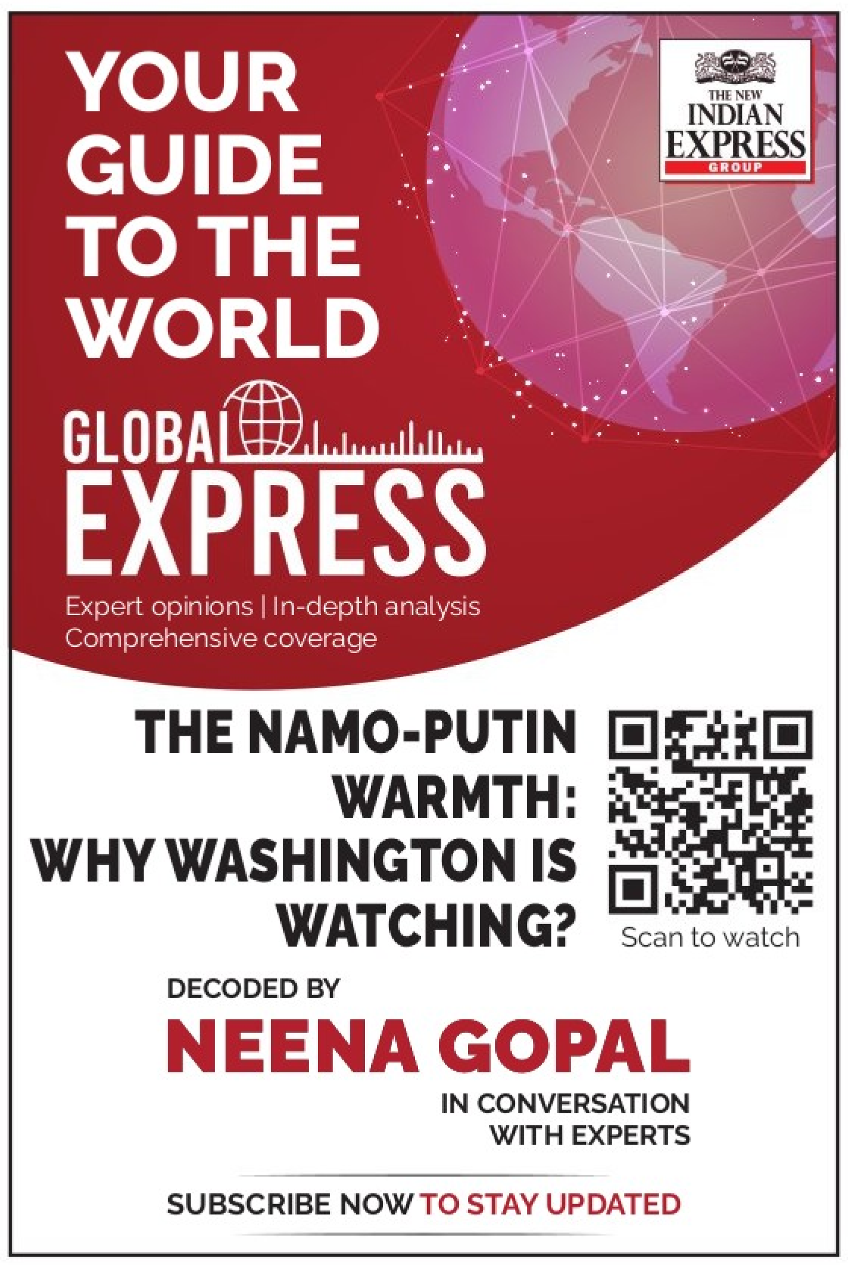
The borrower and Co-borrower in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property will be subject to charge of **Central Bank of India,** for the amount of **Rs. 71,86,019.15/- (Rupees Seventy One Lakhs Eighty Six Thousand Nineteen and Fifteen Paise) (which represents the principal plus interest due as on the Dt. 20.09.2025),** plus interest and other charges **from 20.09.2025.**

The borrowers attention is invited to provisions of sub section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

**DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY**

**Detailed Description of the Secured Asset / Mortgaged Property :-** Site No. 3, New No. 191, Katha No. 43, PID No. 039-W0243-3, Sy.No. 36/1 & 35. Site are 1275 Sq.Ft. along with the Residential Building standing thereon. Within the limits of BBMP Ward No. 17, 1st Cross Road, Vidyanagar (Kemmanagunte), Nelagadeeranahalli Main Road, Dasarahalli Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Nagasandra Post, Bengaluru. **Boundary : East :** Property No. 2, **West :** Property No. 4, **North :** Others Property, **South :** Road.

Date : 02-12-2025
Place : Bengaluru
Sd/- Authorized Officer,
Central Bank of India, Bangalore City Branch




**KRISHNA BHAGYA JALA NIGAM LIMITED**
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
**Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, Dam Division, Almatti-586201. Tq:Nidagundi Dt: Vijayapur.**
**Phone:08426-281027 E-mail:dam_division@rediffmail.com**
No: KBJNL/DDA/DB/TND/2025-26/2361 Dated:06.12.2025

**SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION**
**(Through KPP Portal Only)**

On behalf of the Managing Director, KBJNL, Bangalore the undersigned invites tender on Item Rate & Percentage basis from the eligible contractors for the work indents of **Two Cover** – (1) I .No. 2642 (Others) – 167.53 Lakhs **Single Cover** - work indents of (1) I .No. 2461/Call-2 (Others)- 20.90 Lakhs. (2) I .No. 1716/Call-3 (Others)- 15.33 Lakhs, **For Indent No.2642 The contractor can have access and submit e-tender from 08.12.2025 to 26.12.2025 up to 5-00 PM. Pre-Bid Meeting Executive Engineer, KBJNL Dam Division Almatti for I.No. 2642 is 18.12.2025, Cover-I (Technical & Financial) Bid will be opened on 29.12.2025 at 11-00AM. Further, For Indent No's 2461 & 1716 for Single covers, The contractor can have access and submit e-tender from 08.12.2025 to 18.12.2025 up to 5-00 PM & Technical Bid & Financial bid will be opened on Dt: 20.12.2025** at the Office of the Executive Engineer, KBJNL, Dam Division, Almatti. For clarifications office of the undersigned may be contacted during office hours (Phone No. 08426-281027). Further information about electronic tendering can be had from kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಿಜಯಪುರ/520/
ಕೆಸ್‌ಎಂಸಿಎ/2025–26

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KBJNL, Dam Division, Almatti

**CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED**
Chola — Enter a better life
**Corporate Office:** "Chola Crest", C54 & C55, Super B-4, Thiru Vi Ka Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032, Tamil Nadu, India. **Branch Office:** No.93/1, Gobind Towers, 1st Floor, Singasandra Bommanahalli, Bangalore-560068. Contact: Mr. Janardhan, Mob. No.9590490222.

**E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**

**E-auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.** Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower / Co-Borrower/ Mortgagor (s) that the below-described immovable properties mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the **Physical/Symbolic possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited** the same shall be referred hereinafter as **Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited.** The Secured Assets will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis** through E-Auction. It is hereby informed to the General public that we are going to conduct a public E-Auction through the website **https://bankauctions.in/** .

| S. No | Account No. and Name of Borrower, Co-borrower, Mortgagors | Date & Amount as per Demand Notice U/s 13(2) | Descriptions of the property/ Properties | Reserve Price / Earnest Money Deposit / Bid Increment Amount |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Loan Account No. ML01BMN00000066083, **1. Sheeraz Khan, 2. Arshiya Khan,** Both are at: No.16, 1st Main Dharmana Garden, R.T. Nagar, Bangalore, Karnataka-560032. **3. Karnataka Steels,** No.17, Dharmanna Garden, Near White House, Bangalore North, Bangalore, Karnataka-560032. | **07-03-2025 & Rs.52,58,790/-** as on 07-03-2025 | All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Site No.17, in Katha No.89/1, situated at Cholanayakanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore Presently within the limit of BBMP Measuring East to West: 30 feet and North to South: 40 feet, in all measuring 1200 Square feet, along with building Constructed thereon and **bounded on: East by:** Site No.18, **West by:** Site No.16, **North by:** Site No.33, **South by:** Road. **(Physical Possession)** | **Rs.90,00,000/-** / **Rs.9,00,000/-** / **Rs.1,00,000/-** |
| 2 | Loan Account No. HE01RJJ00000054993, **1. Somasundarum Manjunath Shivatejas, 2. Vishwam Kopperundevi, 3. GMS Aayara Enterprises,** All are at: No.207, 2nd Flr., SLV Park View Apartment Vishweshearaiah Layout, A Block, 8th Cross, 5th Block, Ullulu Main Road, Ullalu, Bangalore, Karnataka-560110. | **07-03-2025 & Rs. 20,47,319/-** as on 07-03-2025 | All that piece and parcel of the Flat bearing No.A207,in the Second Floor, having 1080 Square feet of Super Built up area along with one covered car parking space in the building Known as SLV PARK VIEW and 459 Square feet of UDS formed in Sy.No.158/2, Khatha No. 387/158/2,Situated at Ullalu Village, Yeshwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore and **bounded on:** East by: corridor the Flat No.A202, **West by:** Open Sky then Flat No.8210, **North by:** Flat No.A208, **South by:** Flat No.A206; Within the Registration District of Bangalore and Sub Registration Office. **(Symbolic Possession)** | **Rs.60,00,000/-** / **Rs.6,00,000/-** / **Rs.1,00,000/-** |

**E-Auction Date and Time: 12-01-2026 at 11:00 am to 1:00 PM (with unlimited extension of 3 min each),**
**EMD Submission Last Date: 10-01-2026 (Up to 5.30 P.M.); Inspection Date: 05-01-2026 and 06-01-2026 (10.00 A.M to 1:00. P.M.)**

1. All Interested participants / bidders are requested to visit the website **https://bankauctions.in/** & **https://www.cholamandalam.com/auction-notices** . For details, help, procedure and online training on e-auction, prospective bidders may contact **Mr. Muhammed Rahees - 8124000030/6374845616, Ms. 4 Closure.; Mr. Rekha - 8142000062, Email: CholaAuctionLAP@chola.murugappa.com**
2. For further details on terms and conditions please visit:- **https://bankauctions.in** & **www.cholamandalam.com/news/auction-notices** to take part in e-auction.

**THIS IS ALSO A STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 8 (6) OF SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002**

Date: 08-12-2025, Place: Bangalore
Sd/- Authorized Officer, Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited.

Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara on Sunday reaffirmed Karnataka's commitment to becoming a drug-free state. "We have launched a war against drugs. Since last year, drugs worth more than Rs 300 crore have been seized. Thousands of people have been arrested," he said

# GOD'S WORK MANAGED BY SHOESTRING STAFF

**ASHWINI M SRIPAD** @ Bengaluru

In a society that is in churn and has no safety net, government jobs stand for solidity, especially when new labour codes have opened the floodgates for hire-and-fire. But to the frustration of the rising army of the jobless, the state government is still shy of filling vacancies in its own turf, hampered, seemingly, by a lack of resources. Over 2.5 lakh posts are vacant in various departments. Is it time to call upon the AI genie to bail out governance since it is touted as 'God's Work' in Karnataka?

THE famous inscription on Vidhana Soudha reads 'Government Work is God's Work'. But not many are recruited to take up this divine duty in Karnataka. In 2023, just before the Assembly polls, the Congress released its manifesto and one of the poll promises was that the party would fill all the approved vacancies in all government departments within one year.

It's been over 2.5 years, and the promise remains on paper. In the past too, other governments could not fill the vacancies with the result that over 2.5 lakh posts are lying vacant in various departments. There are 5.2 lakh employees in 72 departments, boards and corporations of the government. Of the 2.5 lakh vacant posts, some are managed by employees appointed on contract basis.

At present, the state government has implemented the recommendations of the 7th Pay Commission since August 2024. Under this structure, minimum salary is Rs 27,000 and maximum is Rs 2.41 lakh.

While recruitment has taken a back seat for various reasons, students and graduates in Dharwad are staging protests, demanding the state government to fill the vacancies. The protest turned ugly recently where over 40 people were detained by the police. They had staged protests many times earlier. In October this year, they held a state-wide convention of job aspirants.

### Financial Implications

One of the reasons for not recruiting is lack of funds. Sources in the government told *TNIE* that on an average, 200 to 250 proposals are received every year from various departments. Each proposal has a request to fill several vacant posts. "Most of the proposals are from the health, education, police and medical departments. We have to keep in mind the financial implications. In most cases, we give approval only for a few posts in departments where staff shortage is severe," the sources said.

But do we really need these many employees for better functionality? A senior retired officer on condition of anonymity, said, "No. Generally revenue expenditure is much larger than capital expenditure (all expenditure that results in asset creation) and the primary reasons are huge wage bills which come to around Rs 1.5lakh crore, including salaries, pensions, admin expenses like office rentals, vehicles, maintenance, power and water bills. The state budget size is around Rs 4lakh crore. We have 7crore people and one-third of the budget allocation is spent on 6 to 8 lakh people who work in government offices. The government cannot be that expensive. We are in a tech-driven era and can replace people with technology. More people interference also leads to more corruption," officials said.

BIG PICTURE

"The government's aim should not be employee-oriented, but people service-oriented, which can be done using technology. It's the taxpayers' money, after all," he said.

Sources from the Finance department said there are a large number of state and central sponsored schemes. "Every new government comes with a set of new schemes, without scrapping the old ones. This leads to more and more schemes and more paperwork which falls on the employees. "In fact, this burden can be reduced by using technology. But vested interests in the government job sector are more. At a lower level, private firms do not pay as much as the government does," sources said.

### Administrative and legal hurdles

It's not just the finance. In 2024, the government decided and set up a one-man panel headed by retired judge HN Nagmohan Das to recommend internal reservation within the 17 per cent meant for Schedule Castes. It also decided against any fresh recruitment till the Commission submitted its report. After the Commission submitted its report, the government began to fill vacancies in various government departments, and promotions which were stalled awaiting the decision on internal quota.

The Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC) is responsible for recruiting candidates for various state government departments. But for various reasons, the process of recruitment is delayed. Karnataka Administrative Reforms Commission-II Chairman and former Chief Secretary TM Vijay Bhaskar had recommended reforms in the KPSC. "The KPSC should conduct on-time exams like UPSC, that will help in hastening the recruitment process," he said.

Meanwhile, the Karnataka High Court issued an order recently which said no further notifications for recruitment or appointments on the basis of increased reservation should be issued till the petitions are disposed of. This again came with conditions. Recruitments that have already begun may be continued, but appointments should be subject to the final outcome of the present petitions, the HC order stated.

Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) is a nodal agency that conducts written exams for various government departments for recruitment. H Prasanna, Executive Director, said that last October, a few departments had approached the KEA to conduct exams. But after the government decided to implement internal reservation, these exams were stalled.

"A few weeks ago, when DPAR gave clearance, 10 government departments, including BDA, BWSSB, Department of Technical Education, RGUHS and Department of Agricultural Marketing, approached the KEA to fill up close to 1,000 posts. "We had issued notification in the month of October and November (till the court order), we are going ahead with it," he said.

Though the Congress government has not implemented its promise to fill vacancies in the government, it has implemented Yuva Nidhi, one of the guarantee schemes that offers financial assistance to educated unemployed youth. The eligible beneficiaries receive monthly payments until they secure employment, or for a maximum of two years. While it lays stress on providing financial assistance and skilled training to unemployed youth, the government could have also given these youths jobs in the government sector.

### WHAT'S THE IMPACT?

According to Karnataka State Government Employees' Association president CS Shadakshari, shortage of staff obviously places pressure on the employees. "If they manage with outsourced staff and guest lecturers, there is no accountability and commitment. This will make an impact on day-to-day administration," he said. Also, if the government delays filling up posts, many youths will be deprived of joining government service as there is an age bar.

### STAFF CRUNCH

**Some key departments that are facing severe staff shortage**

- Education (Primary and Higher Education)
- Agriculture
- Health
- Urban Development
- Food and Civil Supplies

*We have 7 crore people and one-third of allocation is spent on 6 to 8 lakh people who work in government offices. The government cannot be that expensive. We are in a tech-driven era and can replace people with technology*

— An official

# MARATHI GROUP TO HOLD MEET TO COUNTER WINTER SESSION

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE**
@ Belagavi

Last-minute preparations on at Suvarna Vidhana Soudha in Belagavi on Sunday

THE Madhyavarti Maharashtra Ekikaran Samiti (MMES) announced that a mega 'Maha Melava' convention will be held on Monday, in response to the upcoming winter session in Belagavi. Marathi-speaking residents from Belagavi city, border areas and nearby talukas have been urged to participate in large numbers.

Since 2006, the Karnataka government has been conducting its winter session in Belagavi, following Maharashtra's petition in the Supreme Court in 2004 regarding the border dispute. From the very first session, the MMES and Marathi-speaking groups have consistently organised parallel gatherings as a symbolic counter to the Karnataka government's convention.

After the Karnataka government announced the dates for this year's session, the committee resolved to hold a major gathering and initiated an awareness campaign. Over the past few days, awareness programmes were carried out across Belagavi city, rural areas and Khanapur taluk. Pamphlets were distributed and appeals were issued urging Marathi-speaking residents to join the event.

Organisations such as Shiv Sena, Mahila Aghadi and Yuva Samiti have also instructed their members and supporters to attend the gathering. The MMES has proposed four potential venues for the meeting and submitted the list to the police commissioner.

Given the limited time available, the committee has urged volunteers and workers to intensify outreach efforts through social media. Meanwhile, tensions have escalated after the Shiv Sena adopted a strong stance, insisting that the Maha Melava must be allowed and that leaders from Maharashtra should not be restricted from entering Belagavi. The forum warned that if such restrictions continue, ministers and representatives from Karnataka would similarly not be allowed into Maharashtra. In response, several Kannada organisations have strongly criticised the Shiv Sena's position.

# 84 forums to pressure govt on regional development

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

ADDING to the political heat, Belagavi is preparing for a wave of protests by farmers, seers and community groups. BJP is laying siege to Suvarna Soudha on December 9, demanding compensation for farmers who have suffered losses from soybean, sugarcane and other crops. Sugarcane farmers are planning a massive protest over fair and remunerative price and procurement issues.

Also, anger over delayed government recruitment is expected to spill over from last week's demonstrations in Dharwad.

Panchamasalis, who were caned during the protest last year, will hold a silent march this time. BJP leaders, including Council Opposition Chief Whip N Ravi Kumar, state General Secretary Sharanu Tallikeri and Belagavi Rural district president Subhash Patil inspected the protest venue on Saturday.

As the session returns to Belagavi, questions over costs versus outcomes are again in the spotlight. Since 2006, Belagavi has hosted 13 sessions, costing the state exchequer nearly Rs 170 crore. This year's 10-day session alone will cost Rs 21 crore, up from last year's Rs 15 crore. To accommodate MLAs, MLCs and officials, 3,000 rooms have been booked across the city. German tents have been erected for 6,000 police personnel, and security has been tightened around Suvarna Soudha. Despite the mounting expenditure, activists say the sessions have not translated into solutions for North Karnataka's long-pending demands. As many as 84 organisations are preparing to pressure the government over regional development.

The looming delimitation exercise which will freeze the creation of new districts for several years has intensified demands to reorganise Belagavi before the window closes. Seers and leaders from Gokak, Chikkodi and Bailhongal are expected to meet the chief minister to push for the creation of three new districts by trifurcating the existing 14-taluk Belagavi district.

The Karnataka cabinet recently gave its nod to the Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention and Control) Bill, a landmark legislation proposing stringent penalties for promoting communal disharmony. The Bill, to be tabled in this session, is expected to face stiff resistance from BJP, which alleges that it is being brought only to target opposition leaders. Thirteen Bills are likely to be tabled during the session.

With a fractious ruling party, an aggressive opposition, a charged atmosphere on the streets and several contentious Bills on the anvil, the Belagavi session is set to be one of the most politically intense in recent years.

### Govt enhances maize procurement limit from 20 to 50 quintal per farmer

Bengaluru: Acceding to the protests of farmers, the Karnataka government on Sunday enhanced the maize procurement limit from 20 quintals to 50 quintals per farmer, at a minimum support price (MSP) of Rs 2,400 per quintal. Initially, it was 25 quintals and then was reduced to 20. The revised order comes on the eve of the winter session of the state legislature that starts in Suvarna Vidhana Soudha in Belagavi from Monday. As many as 17,589 farmers had registered of which 286 availed the scheme as on Sunday with 4,603.64 quintals of maize being procured. But it's expected that the upgraded procurement limits is likely to accelerate the procurement volumes. The Farmer Registration and Procurement (FRP) portal has been enabled for the KMF operated procurement centres which are fully operational, according to official reports. **ENS**

# As Sonia steps in, leadership row may be put to rest by mid-Jan

**DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI** @ Bengaluru

WITH Congress Parliamentary Party (CPP) leader Sonia Gandhi finally intervening in the leadership change imbroglio in Karnataka, the deadlock might now be resolved by mid-January. Sources said that a decision to put the matter to rest is likely before Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi goes abroad after January 15.

Sonia met AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge and party General Secretary (Organisation) incharge KC Venugopal in New Delhi on Saturday and took stock of the situation in Karnataka.

A cold war has been brewing between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar over change in CM's post. But they were forced to project a united front by hosting each other for breakfast meetings, though on the advice of the high command.

After Congress drubbing in the Bihar Assembly polls, Sonia is likely to see the turmoil in Karnataka in a broader perspective, as the party has to gear up for the polls to Assam, West Bengal, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and union territory of Puducherry in 2026, sources said. Sonia, a veteran leader, knows that Shivakumar, noted for his organisational skills, would come in handy in the elections, said a senior Congress leader.

The Shivakumar camp was upbeat that Sonia intervened as she has a soft spot for the DCM ever since he was sent to Tihar jail in the alleged money laundering case and is now also facing an ED probe. The Delhi Police's Economics Offenses Wing (EOW) also issued a notice to him in the National Herald case recently. Shivakumar has been reportedly claiming that he had to face the heat because he stood strong for the party.

Shivakumar has met Sonia and her daughter Priyanka Gandhi Vadra several times in secret as they too were parties to the reported power-sharing pact struck when the party came to power in 2023. As per the pact, Siddaramaiah has to relinquish his CM post to Shivakumar after completing two-and-a-half years of the term.

At the same time, the Siddaramaiah camp is pinning hopes on Rahul for the former's continuation as CM and is trying to checkmate Shivakumar with various strategies, including impressing upon the top leadership that the support of AHINDA communities will not be guaranteed if Siddaramaiah is forced to step down.

Shivakumar has also been getting closer to Mallikarjun Kharge and his son Priyank, who met Rahul in Delhi and discussed the state's political developments for over an hour recently. He later also met Shivakumar, sending out a message that the high command is likely to stand by Shivakumar.

Hitting back at Siddaramaiah sympathisers who were harping on how he is indispensable to the party, Priyank had said, "Was Congress not there before Siddaramaiah?"

But Sonia is likely to weigh several options before taking decision and if both the Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar camps continue to be at loggerheads, she may think of naming Mallikarjun Kharge as a consensus candidate for CM, Kharge sympathisers said. In that scenario, the high command will have to think of ways to placate both Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar.

If Siddaramaiah appears flexible, the high command may nominate him to the Rajya Sabha or even consider him for the LoP post to impress upon backward classes, especially his Kuruba community, suggested a senior Congress leader.

# CM, DCM attend inter-caste, inter-religious mass marriage

**MALLIKARJUN HIREMATH**
@ Navalgund, Dharwad

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy CM DK Shivakumar, their cabinet colleagues and others at a mass marriage programme in Navalgund town on Sunday | EXPRESS

CALLING for marriages between all religions and castes to bring equality in society, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah urged everyone to follow on the footsteps of 12th century social reformer Basavanna.

"Philosopher and social reformer Basavanna organised a wedding between an upper caste and a lower class in the 12th century and that is how he wrote the preface to bring equality in society. Along with mass marriages between brides and grooms of all religions, inter-caste marriages should also take place in society. This will help bring equality among all in society," he said.

The chief minister was speaking during a mass marriage programme organised by MLA N H Konaraddi at the Model High School grounds in Navalgund town on Sunday. The MLA organised the programme as part of the wedding reception of his son Naveen Kumar. As many as 75 couples, including a Muslim and a Christian, got married at the programme.

Siddaramaiah said Hindus, Muslims, Christians and Buddhists, all should live as human beings and the caste system should be abolished.

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar, Union Minister Pralhad Joshi, ministers K J George, H C Mahadevappa, Krishna Byregowda, Ramalinga Reddy and Santosh Lad; MLAs Basavaraja Rayareddy, Prasad Abbayya and Basavaraj Shivannavar, HESCOM president Syed Azeempeer Khadri and others were present.

'Karnataka must build its own Great Green Wall' ● 'Bengaluru must reinvent itself as a Sponge City'

# Speak up for planet, or it will hit back, warns expert

INDRA S @ Bengaluru

BANGALORE LITERATURE FESTIVAL DAY 2

OUTLINING three urgent interventions that the state can no longer afford to ignore, Nagesh Hegde, environmental writer and science journalist, pointed out that dazzling infrastructure projects are dominating while urgent environmental concerns are being ignored, allowing the "Earth itself to speak back" through disasters.

Speaking at a session titled 'Me and You and Climate Change' at the Bengaluru Literature Festival on Sunday, Nagesh Hegde, while questioning why governments are not announcing any 'dazzling' green projects, proposed three actions that can and should be taken to address the burning issue of climate.

First, Karnataka must build its own "Great Green Wall", modelled on Africa's 7,800km ecological barrier against expanding deserts. Districts like Bidar, Kalaburagi, Ballari and Chitradurga face the alarming prospect of turning arid. A 350km long, 2km wide green belt, he argues, is no longer optional, it is survival. Second, Bengaluru must reinvent itself as a 'Sponge City', retaining the rain it already receives instead of racing toward expensive river-intervention projects. With 870mm rainfall and nearly 300 lakes, the city has the natural infrastructure it needs, but only if it is restored and managed. Third, he calls for reversing India's destructive "cut now, compensate later" (Parihara Aranya) approach. Karnataka has 66 lakh hectares of barren land, enough to build future forests before development begins, creating livelihoods and long-term ecological buffers, stated Nagesh.

Tracing the evolution of ecological thought in Kannada literature, from Kuvempu and Shivaram Karanth to KP Poornachandra Tejaswi, Gururaj Davanagere, Professor of Applied Mathematics and Director of the National Academy of RR Institutions, noted that writers long warned against human excesses.

The speakers also recalled Karnataka's once-strong environmental movements, from anti-nuclear protests to Western Ghats campaigns, and that the momentum faded after globalisation shifted society toward consumption and careerism. Turning to the future, Gururaj said students today show genuine concern but are disillusioned by contradictory government signals. "We ask children to plant saplings while governments allow the clearing of hundreds of acres of forests. They ask us 'If those in power don't care, how can we make a difference?'"

Calling for political courage, both speakers emphasised that environmental policy can no longer be treated as an optional agenda. "The crisis is here. It is personal, political, and immediate," they said. "If humans don't speak for the planet, the planet will continue speaking through disasters we can no longer control."

Visitors at the Bengaluru Literature Fest at Freedom Park on Sunday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

## India needs a govt that's open to criticism: Ex-guv

ABHIJEET KABAD @ Bengaluru

FORMER West Bengal governor and writer Gopalkrishna Gandhi said the government must remain open to criticism, and at the same time, critics must be open to self-criticism. "Critics have the arrogance that makes them think they are messiahs," he said while talking at the Bengaluru Literature Festival.

Gandhi said, India is a majority with minorities. "This is not in terms of ethnicity or religion, but lifestyle and beliefs. If we remember that, we can save democracy from being a dictatorship or an oligarchy." Speaking about his experience at Aam Aadmi Party, he said, "Aam Aadmi Party is one of the most painful disappointments of our democracy. The party allied itself towards public distaste on corruption, but the party didn't speak to society directly."

Talking about his experience of working with two Presidents, he said, "The former president Naryanan said a President has no authority, but has great influence. This influence must accord with public opinion when it is right."

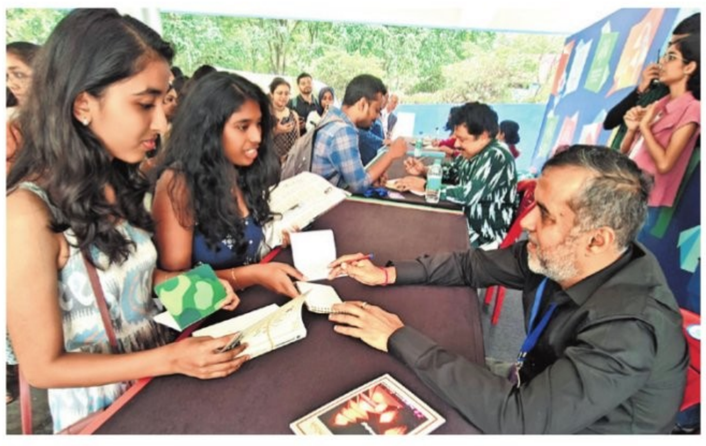
## Babri can't be equated with pluralism: Suresh Kumar to Banu

ENS @ Bengaluru

FORMER minister and senior BJP leader Suresh Kumar has written to International Booker Prize awardee Banu Mushtaq, saying "you don't need to worship Ram or show reverence to that great King who ruled Ayodhya. But at the same time, you cannot identify with an invader and equate the mosque built in his name with secularism and pluralism".

Suresh was reacting to Banu's statement made at the Bangalore Lit Fest, stating that India lost its pluralism when the Babri Masjid was brought down.

He explained that there is something called "collective self-respect, dignity and honour" of the people, irrespective of their mode of worship, beliefs, caste, creed, region and religion. "This collective self-respect, dignity and honour were hit by an invader by name Babar. He came to Ayodhya, demolished a temple that was in existence for thousands of years and constructed a mosque in his name, and this was the most brutal assault on the collective psyche, self-respect, dignity and honour of Hindus," he said. The row is not between Ram Temple and Babri Masjid; it is the question of the nation's identity. With whom must this nation identify -- Ram or Babar? The people of India – irrespective of their religion, mode of worship, caste, creed and belief – need to identify with Ram because Ram is an Indian and Babar is an invader.



Writer Chetan Bhagat interacts with his fans at Bengaluru Literature Festival, at Freedom Park, on Sunday | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

## Couples are unsure today; it's situationships: Bhagat

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengluru

ON the second day of the Bangalore Literature Fest on Sunday, author Chetan Bhagat remarked on the nature of romantic relationships in India, stating that the concept of romance and love has changed drastically over the years, prompting him to write his latest novel, '12 Years: My Messed-up Love Story'.

He explained that, unlike traditional love stories, where families were the main obstacle, modern relationships are shaped by emotional uncertainty. "Earlier, parents were not sure. Today, couples are not sure about each other. This is the India we live in — situationships," Chetan said.

Chetan said the book is a love story between a 21-year-old woman and a 33-year-old man, adding that the 12-year age gap between the protagonists was a deliberate choice. "I wanted a number where people are morally confused. Half the people think it's okay, half think it's completely wrong," he said, adding that such grey areas reflect real-life dilemmas faced by today's youth.

Bhagat also spoke about portraying cultural contrasts in the book, particularly the life of a young woman from a conservative Jain household. He said that many young Indians live "double lives," behaving one way at home and another in the outside world. "At home, it's no boys, no alcohol, no freedom. Outside, they're independent and ambitious," he said.

On film adaptations, Bhagat said movies are no longer his ultimate goal. "Movies are not the ultimate prize. I write books so that people still read in 2025," he stated, adding that he now treats writing like a disciplined practice.

### Kanisetti discerns between history and propaganda

Bengaluru: "History is not a competition; it is about who we are and where we come from," said historian and author Anirudh Kanisetti at the Bangalore Literature Festival. Speaking at a panel titled "The Making and Unmaking of Empires", he said, "In India, history and archaeology have been politically weaponised. Excavations are funded based on propagandas. The government find it more important to excavate some imaginary golden history than to find out how real Indians lived." He said It is important to remember that non-river-valley civilisations also shaped the India. The historian noted an important imbalance in how Indian history is erected on civilisations that grew along the Indus and Ganges valleys, making it a disproportionately skewed account. ENS

### Neelakantan delves into diverse narratives of Ramayana

Bengaluru: Novelist Anand Neelakantan took to stage to talk of the many Ramayanas that abound across world cultures. Neelakantan was speaking in a panel discussion that discussed his new book 'Many Ramayanas, Many Lessons'. The crux of the book, according to him, lies in the fact that "no definitive Ramayana exists." "There is a version where Sita refuses to go to exile with Ram. When Ram returns, she refuses him entry, akin to the suspicion Ram has towards Sita's loyalty in the accepted version. Unlike Ram, Sita does not make her spouse go through an agnipariksha in this version, but just takes his word for it. There is yet another version where Hanuman is shown to be a philanderer, and many versions that depict Sita to be Raavan's daughter," he said. He explained that at the core of Ramayana lies not necessarily a conflict between good and evil, but between sacrificialism and materialism. ENS


**JM FINANCIAL ASSET RECONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED**
CIN: U67190MH2007PLC174287
Regd. Office: 7th Floor, Cnergy, Appasaheb Marathe Marg, Prabhadevi, Mumbai – 400025
Email id: queries.arc@jmfl.com; Contact No. 022-62241676, Website: www.jmfinancialarc.com

**SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**

APPENDIX IV-A [See proviso to Rule 8(6)], Provision to Rule 9(1) of Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) and proviso to Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s), Co-Borrower(s) Mortgagor(s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the JM Financial Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (JMFARC), acting in its capacity as trustee of EB Retail 2025 - Trust ("Secured Creditor"), possession of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer of Equitas Small Finance Bank ("Assignor"), (Subsequently assigned to JMFARC), will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" for recovery of dues in below mentioned accounts. The details of Borrower'(s), Co-Borrower(s),Mortgagor(s)/ Guarantor(s), Secured Assets, Dues Reserve Price/ E-Auction date & time and Bid Increase Amount are mentioned below:

| Name & Address of Borrowers/Co-Borrower/ Mortgagers/ Guarantors | Description of the Immovable Properties | Reserve Price & EMD Price & Bid Increase Price | Loan / Total Dues |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Mr/Mrs LALITHA N, ("Borrower") C/O Mr/Mrs NAGARACHARI 2. Mr/Mrs SARASWATHI, ("Co-Borrower 1") C/O Mr/Mrs NAGARAJU (Both are residing at - NO 36 GOWRAMMA BUILDING, KITTHAGANAHALLI, HEBBAGODI, BANGALORE RURAL, KARNATAKA, 560099 - Ph :9972733926. | All that piece and parcel of immovable property Site No. 166/128, E- Katha P.ID No. 150200101300800170, Khaneshmari No. 128 , old khaneshwmari No. 101/3 and Jajjar No. 166 Measuring East to West 30 feet and north to south 26 feet, in total measuring 780 sq. feet. Situated at Tattanahalli Anekallu Bangalore Urban., North By : House Belongs to Pullappa, South By : House belongs to Muthalaiah, East By : House belongs to Shambaiah, West By : 5 feet Common Passage House Chikkapapaiah.. | Rs.786250<br>Rs.78625<br>Rs.10,000 | Loan Account No: - SERTNAG0408969 / 700006738270 Claim Amount Due Total Outstanding being Rs. 870147 /- as on 16.10.2025 with further interest from 17.10.2025 with monthly rest, charges and costs, etc., |

Encumbrances Known, if any: "Not Known to the Secured Creditor to the best of its knowledge"

For details and queries on purchase and sale contact no- Mabusab 8861292573 , Rakesh M V 9611500100, Naveena N9611500100 & Prashant Monde - 022-62241676

Date & Time of E-Auction: 26.12.2025 From 11.00 AM to 01.00 PM
Date & Time of Inspection: - 15-12-2025 to 19-12-2025 - 10.00 AM to 01.00 PM.
Last date for submission of online application for BID with EMD: 24.12.2025

The intending purchaser/ bidder is required to submit amount of Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) by way of NEFT/RTGS/DD in the account of "Equitas Small Finance Bank Ltd" Account No- 200000807725 and IFSC code- ESFB0001001 Bhaaggyam Galleria New No. 18 , Bazzulla Road, T-Nagar, Chennai-600 117, drawn on any nationalized or scheduled bank on or before date: 24.12.2025
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided in https://www.jmfinancialarc.com/Home/RetailAssets & https://www.bankeauctions.com.
Authorized officer,
Date - 08.12.2025,Place - Bangalore
JM FINANCIAL ASSET RECONSTRUCTION COMPANY LIMITED



**POSSESSION NOTICE**

Whereas, the authorized officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** under the Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued **demand notices** to the borrower(s)/ Co-borrowers(s) calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned against the respective names together with interest thereon at the applicable rates as mentioned in the said notices within **60 days** from the receipt of the said notices, along with future interest as applicable incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred till the date of payment and/or realisation.

| Sr. No. | Loan No. | Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor | 13(2) Notice Date/ Outstanding Due (in Rs.) as on | Date/ Time & Type of Possession |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 47469630000467 & 47469410001039 | 1) Mr. Deepak B M, 2) Mrs. Keerthi Kala R, 3) Mrs. Pillamma | 19.09.2025, Rs.8,40,583.71 (Rupees Eight Lakh Forty Thousand Five Hundred Eighty Three and Seventy One Paisa Only) due as on 15-09-2025 | Date: 02.12.2025 Time: 05:42 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.265/123/2, Katha ID No. 150200400100100272, situated at Bidarahalli Village, Bidarahalli Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore-560049 and Bounded on: East by: Property belongs to Rathnamma, West by: Road, North by: Road, South by: Property belongs to Kempamma. Measuring East to West: 4.572 Mtr and North to South: 6.096 Mtr, in all measuring 27.87 Sq.mtrs. | | | |
| 2 | 31879630000377 & 33878190039472 | 1) Mr. Selvaraj S, 2) Mrs. Swarna | 31.07.2025, Rs.2,48,193.00 (Rupees Two Lakh Forty Eight Thousand One Hundred Ninety Three) due as on 25-07-2025 | Date: 03.12.2025 Time: 02:10 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All that piece and for property bearing Municipal No.249, PID No.10-75-249, measuring East to West 7.50 meter and North to South 4.6 meter totally measuring 34.5 sq.meter situated at Gowthamanagara Slum, previously Bangalore Yeshwanthapura Layout, presently within the limits of BBMP Ward No.10 and Bounded on: East by: Road, West by: Site No.248, North by: Water Tank (C.A), South by: Galli Road. | | | |
| 3 | 33870430000070 & 33879410000829 | 1) Mrs. Rajeshwari K, 2) Mr. Karthik M, 3) Mrs. Sarala | 25.09.2025, Rs.7,35,553.70 (Rupees Seven Lakh Thirty Five Thousand Five Hundred Fifty Three and Seventy Paisa Only) due as on 21-09-2025 | Date: 03.12.2025 Time: 4:30 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All the piece and parcel of the for Property bearing Site No.03, Assessment No.68, Khatha No.3, measuring East to West 17 feet, North to South 21 feet, Totally measuring 357 Sq.feet situated at New BBMP Ward No.71, Hegganahalli Village, Yashwanthapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk and Bounded on: East by: 5-0 feet Road, West by: House belongs to Rajagopal, North by: House belongs to Rajagopal, South by: House belongs to Shanthamma. | | | |
| 4 | 45350540000089 | 1) Mr. Shanthamma, 2) Mr. Manjunath | 24.09.2025, Rs.3,16,475.59 (Rupees Three Lakh Sixteen Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Five and Fifty Nine Paisa Only) due as on 21-09-2025 | Date: 03.12.2025 Time: 04:21 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of the property Sl.No.l4l/58, measuring 16X48 feet situated at Ajjanahalli (Chandrappa Circle) Village, Ajjanahalli Grama Panchayath, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore City District and Bounded on: East by: Property belongs to Shankar, West by: Property belongs to Babu, North by: Property belongs to Narasimaiah, South by: Government Road. | | | |
| 5 | 34019630000818 | 1) Mr. Ravi, 2) Mrs. Nirmala, 3) Mrs. Nanjamma | 24.09.2025, Rs.2,35,417.48 (Rupees Two Lakh Thirty Five Thousand Four Hundred Seventeen and Forty Eight Paisa Only) due as on 21-09-2025 | Date: 04.12.2025 Time: 01:35 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing house No.70 Sl.No.94 situated at Surendrapura Village, Hesaraghatta Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore Rural District Presently Comes under the limits of Arakere Gram Panchayath, measuring 65*45 feet. Bounded on: East by: Road, West by: Hanumantha Bhatta, North by: Hanumantha Bhatta, South by: Venkataramanappa. | | | |
| 6 | 45350530000824 & 47048940020652 | 1) Mr. Anthoni Steepan Raj, 2) Mr. Raymond, 3) Mrs. Sagaya Mary | 30.08.2025, Rs.4,85,760.85 (Rupees Four Lakh Eighty Five Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty and Eighty Five Paisa Only) due as on 29-08-2025 | Date: 03.12.2025 Time: 12:20 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All the piece and parcel of the Property No.152900202200800231/254/178 measuring East to West 6.096 meters and North to South 14.9352 meters situated at Harobele Village, Nallahalli Grama Panchayath, Kanakapura Block, Ramanagara District and Bounded on the: East by: Site belongs to Balaraju and Site belongs to Francis Madlemery, West by: House belongs to Balavendra Sosaraju, North by: Road, South by: Land belongs to Selester Rayappa. | | | |
| 7 | 45350430000466 | 1) Mrs. Shivamuthamma, 2) Mr. Ananda | 24.09.2025, Rs.4,74,248.32 (Rupees Four Lakh Seventy Four Thousand Two Hundred Forty Eight and Thirty Two Paisa Only) due as on 21-09-2025 | Date: 03.12.2025 Time: 12:30 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of the Khaneshumari. No.14/8/2 measuring East to West 14.634 meters, North to South 9.1463 meters, situated at Nallahalli Village, Nallahalli Grama Panchayath, Uyamballi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk Ramanagara District and Bounded on: East by: Road, West by: House belongs to Sannaidegowda, S/o. Chikkaidegowda, North by: House belongs to Chikkalachamaiah and Doddasiragowda, South by: Own Property. | | | |
| 8 | 47059630001370 & 47059410000558 | 1) Mr. Munidasu, 2) Mrs. Neelamani | 24.09.2025, Rs.5,55,985.19 (Rupees Five Lakh Fifty Five Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty Five and Nineteen Paisa Only) due as on 21-09-2025 | Date: 03.12.2025 Time: 12:50 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of the property E-khatha No.152900202200200250 Khaneshumari No.227/149/2, Measuring East to West 9.144 meters and North to South 9,4488 meters, situated at Nallahalli Village and Dhakle, Harobelee, Nallahalli Grama Panchayath, Uyyamballi Hobli, Kanakapura Block, Ramanagara District and Bounded on: East by: House belongs to Bhairegowda and Chikkathayamma, West by: Pathway road, North by: Property belongs to Sonnamma, W/o. Venkataramanaiah, South by: Remaining Own property. | | | |
| 9 | 47040430001130 | 1) Mrs. Mangamma, 2) Mr. Muttu Ram | 24.09.2025, Rs.4,59,925.01 (Rupees Four Lakh Fifty Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Twenty Five and One Paisa Only) due as on 17-09-2025 | Date: 03.12.2025 Time: 02:35 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of the Property No.152900202701000188 Khaneshuri No.105/40 measuring East to West 10.68 Meters, North to South 13.4112 Meters, situated at Gollaradoddi Village, Mullahalli Gram Panchayath, Uyyamballi Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District and Bounded on: East by: House belongs to Siddanna, West by: Property belongs to Ramadaasu, North by: Road, South by: Property belongs to Perumaal Bhovi. | | | |
| 10 | 47059630001443 | 1) Mr. Shivarudra R, 2) Mr. Rajanna, 3) Mr. Veena S | 24.07.2025, Rs.3,76,805.13 (Rupees Three Lakh Seventy Six Thousand Eight Hundred Five and Thirteen Paisa Only) due as on 17-07-2025 | Date: 03.12.2025 Time: 03:20 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel for Property Khaneshumari 101/101, measuring East to West 10.6579 meter and North to South 13.7159 meters, situated at Thipuru Village and Dhakle, Herandyapanahalli Grama Panchayath, Kodihalli Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District and Bounded on: East by: Pathway Road, West by: House belongs to Chotappa, North by: Panchayath Road, South by: House belongs to Kenchappa. | | | |
| 11 | 51870430000174 | 1) Mr. Chandrashekar B, 2) Mrs. Bhagya | 21.08.2025, Rs.4,94,362.04 (Rupees Four Lakh Ninety Four Thousand Three Hundred Sixty Two and Four Paisa Only) due as on 14-08-2025 | Date: 03.12.2025 Time: 04:10 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All that the piece and parcel of the property bearing No.36/1, E-Katha No.150300300200820660 situated at Mallathahalli Village, Comes with in the purview of Kanthanakunte Grama Panchayath Doddaballapura Taluk Bangalore Rural District, Measuring East-West: 40.235 Meters, North-South 25.145 Meters, Totally measuring 1011.71 Sq.meters and Bounded on: East by: Property of Appayyanna, West by: Road, North by: Property of Narasappa, South by: Property of Rajanna and Doddamuniyappa. | | | |
| 12 | 47040430001070 | 1) Mr. Govindaraju, 2) Mrs. Jayamma | 19.09.2025, Rs.4,72,827.32 (Rupees Four Lakh Seventy Two Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty Seven and Thirty Two Paisa Only) due as on 15-09-2025 | Date: 03.12.2025 Time: 04:35 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All that Piece of the Property Khaneshumari No.38/49/2, Measuring East-West 5.1815 meters and North-South 10.363 meters, situated at Maralipura Village, Banni Mukkodlu Grama Panchayath, Kodihalli Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk, Ramanagara District and Bounded on: East by: Sampu, West by: House belongs to Biligiri Muttaiah, North by: Government Road, South by: Property belongs to Madegowda. | | | |
| 13 | 46980440000012 & 46989170055485 | 1) Varadharaju M, 2) Mrs. Chaithra | 03.09.2025, Rs.3,28,041.10 (Rupees Three Lakh Twenty Eight Thousand Forty One and Ten Paisa Only) due as on 29-08-2025 | Date: 03.12.2025 Time: 04:47 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All the piece and parcel of the property bearing No.62/90, E Katha No.150300302500600388 situated at Hadripura Village, Comes within the purview of Hadripura Grama Panchayath, Doddaballapura Taluk Bangalore Rural District, measuring East-West 9.144 mtrs, North-South 12.192 mtrs, totally measuring 111.48 Sq.mtrs and Bounded on: East: Property of Channarayappa, West: Property of Nagarathnamma, North: Property of Doddanarasamma, South: Road. | | | |
| 14 | 47059630000940 & 47059410000331 | 1) Mr. Swamy D B, 2) Mrs. Sudha R | 04.09.2025, Rs.6,12,088.34 (Rupees Six Lakh Twelve Thousand Eighty Eight and Thirty Four Paisa Only) due as on 29-08-2025 | Date: 03.12.2025 Time: 05:20 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel for property measuring No.64, SL. No.28, Khaneshumari No.28/64, measuring East to West 7.3161 meter (24 feet) and North to South 13.7178 meters (45 feet), totally measuring 1080 Sq.feet, situated at Ajjabasavanahalli Village and Dhakle, Heridyapanahalli Gram Panchayath, Kodihalli Hobli, Kanakapura Taluk Ramanagara District and Bounded on: East by: Road, West by: Land belongs to Naveena, North by: House belongs to Siddappa, South by: House belongs to Gowramma. | | | |
| 15 | 33640430000249 | 1) Mr. Murthy, 2) Mr. Darshan, 3) Mrs. Munilakshmamma | 25.09.2025, Rs.5,11,115.82 (Rupees Five Lakh Eleven Thousand One Hundred Fifteen and Eighty Two Paisa Only) due as on 22-09-2025 | Date: 03.12.2025 Time: 03:35 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of the for Property No.58, Sl.No.29, measuring East to West 38 feet and North to South 24 feet, in total Measuring 912 Sq.ft. situated at Bannikuppe Village, Bannikuppe Grama Panchayath, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk, Ramanagara District and Bounded on: East by: Property belongs to Lakshmi, West by: Road, North by: Road, South by: Property belongs to Bhagyamma. | | | |
| 16 | 46989440000421 | 1) Mr. Rajanna, Prop. M/s. Chakri Gents Parlour, 2) Mrs. Lakshmamma R, 3) Mrs. Nandini | 24.09.2025, Rs.3,39,223.56 (Rupees Three Lakh Thirty Nine Thousand Two Hundred Twenty Three and Fifty Six Paisa Only) due as on 21-09-2025 | Date: 04.12.2025 Time: 02:10 PM Symbolic Possession |
| | Description of the Property: All the peace and parcel o/ the Property bearing E-Katha No.180/156, ID No. 150300201200200268, situated at Thindlu Village, Jalige Grama Panchayathi, Devanahalli Block, Bangalore Rura-I District and Bounded on the: East by: Road, West by: Property of Sri Muniraju, North by: Property of Sri Thammannappa, South by: Property of Sri Gangappa. Measuring East to West 8.18mtrs and North to South 9.09mtrs, in all measuring 75.25 Sq.meters. | | | |

Whereas, the Borrowers/ Co-borrowers/ Guarantors/ Mortgagors, mentioned herein above have failed to repay the amounts due, notice is hereby is given to the Borrowers mentioned herein above in particular and to the Public in general that the authorized officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has **taken possession** of the properties/ secured assets described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the dates mentioned above. The Borrowers/ Co-borrowers/ Guarantors/ Mortgagors, mentioned herein above in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the aforesaid properties/ Secured Assets and any dealings with the said properties/ Secured Assets will be subject to the charge of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited.**

Place: Bangalore & Bangalore Rural
Date: 08.12.2025
Sd/- Authorised Officer
For. Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

**JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK (A Scheduled Commercial Bank)**
Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.



IN THE HON'BLE COURT OF 57TH ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, MAYOHALL UNIT, AT BANGALORE (CCH-58)
**P & SC No. 25011/2025**

**Petitioner : Master Rihan Ahmed,** Aged about 09 years, S/o of Mr. Abrar Ahmed, A.K. Grandson of Late A.K. Ahmed, Residing at No.76, Ananth Nayar Road, Marfi Town, HAL 2nd Stage, Bangalore -560008 Aadhaar No. 8997 8343 4625 Master Rihan Ahmed is minor," He is represented by his mother and natural Guardian Mrs. Asma Anjum V/s
**Respondent : Mr. Abrar Ahmed A K** S/o Late A.K.Ahmed, aged 30 years Residing at No.76, Ananth Nayar Road, Marfi Town, HAL 2nd Stage, Bangalore -560008

**Summons to General Public Notice under order 05 Rule 20 of cpc**

Whereas the Petitioner has instituted the above suit before the Hon'ble 57th Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge, Mayohall at Bengaluru (CCH-58) against the aforesaid respondent seeking for the relief to grant letter of administration of WILL dated 17.08.2018 having legal effect throughout the State of Karnataka and the Union of India. Therefore, if anybody got interest in subject matter of petition you are hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble 57th Addl City Civil and Sessions Judge, CCH-58, Mayohall, Bangalore either in person or through pleader duly instructed to answer the claim on **5th day of January 2026 at 11-00 AM** as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted. Take notice that, in case of default petition will be heard and determined in your absence.

**Schedule Property**

All that piece and parcel of immoveable property bearing No.76, measuring East to West : 22.9 Feet and North to South : 36 Feet, totally ad-measuring 824.4 Square Feet, situated at Ananthnair Road, Murphy Town (Hoysala Nagar), Halasuru, BBMP Ward No.82, Bangalore-560008, consisting of Ground, First and Second Floor, each floor ad-measuring 800 Square Feet, totally ad-measuring 2400 Square Feet and bounded on : **East by :** Private Property, **West by :** Road, **North by :** Cross Road, **South by :** Private Property.
Given under my hand and seal of the Court, this 04th day of December 2025

**By Order of the Court**
Sd/- Deputy Registrar,
City Civil Court, Mayohall Unit, Bangalore.
**Advocate for Petitioner Mabusubani Advocate,** No.126, Mezanani Floor, Prestige Nugget, Infantry Road, Bangalore-560001.



All the news.
In just a click.
Log to www.newindianexpress.com
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to inform the general public that my client **B.V. Usha C/o. H.T. Krishna Murthy,** residing at No. 580, 11th Main 6th Cross, H.A.L. II Stage, Bangalore North District , Bangalore -560008, Aadhaar No. 4161 2529 2388, hereby bring to the notice of general public that she has lost / misplaced below mentioned documents :-

1. Original: Possession Certificate dated 25.02.1970
2. Original: Endorsement dated 23.11.1970
3. Original: Sale deed No. 1596/2000-01 Registered in the office of the Sub Registrar, Shivajingara, Bangalore to dated 18.08.2000, in favour of Venkatesha Gowda B.C. sri
4. Original: Sale deed No. 1597/2000-01 dated 18.08.2000 Registered in the office of the Sub Registrar, Shivajingara, and Bangalore in favour of Thammanna . Sri

We are unable to trace the same. In this connection, a Complaint is lodged under Lost Article Report , Lost Report No. 1938246//2025 dated 03.12.2025, in Police Unit : Bengaluru City. If any Person/s who find it , is requested to return us at below mentioned Address within **15 days** from the date of publication of this notice. In the event we do not in any manner get any information about the said originals mentioned above within the time frame mentioned herein, we shall act upon the Certified Copy/Photocopy , as if, the same is the original.

**: SCHEDULE PROPERTY :**

ALL THAT PIECE AND PARCEL of the Immovable Property bearing Municipal **No. 301, HAL 2nd Stage , Bangalore City**, East to West: **45 Feet,** and North to South: **80 Feet,** Totally measuring **3600 Square Feet,** and bounded on the:
**East by : Road, West by : Site No. 300, North by : Road, South by : Site No. 355 and 356.**

**Mahesha HK,** Advocate
Office No. 12, 1st Floor, Building No. 162/2, J.J. Complex , Vijayangara, Sub Registrar office Building, 18th Cross, M.C. Layout, Vijayangar, Bengaluru -560040 **Mobile No. 9845891477**
**B.V. Usha Mobile No. 9945791889**



केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government Of India Undertaking)
Head Office: Bangalore

ARM-1 BRANCH
2nd Floor, No.86, Spencer Tower,
M.G. Road Bangalore-560001
PH: 080-25588028/25588641
E-mail: cb2366@canarabank.com

**SALE NOTICE**

**E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES UNDER THE SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT, 2002 READ WITH PROVISO TO RULE 8 (6) OF THE SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002**

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of **ARM Branch-1** Bengaluru of the **Canara Bank,** will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is",** and **"Whatever there is"** on **24.12.2025 (10.00 AM to 11.00 AM),** for recovery of **Rs.75,88,11,807.14 (Rupees Seventy Five Crore Eighty Eight Lakh Eleven Thousands Eight Hundred Seven And Fourteen Paisa Only) as on 04.12.2025** with further interest and cost thereon due to the ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of Canara Bank from **1. M/s Air Pegasus Pvt Ltd** No. 21/15, M G Road, Bangalore-56001. **2. Sri Shyson Thomas** S/o Late P C Joseph, **3. Mrs. Shyana Thomas** W/o Shyson Thomas, **4. Mr. Ashwin Thomas** S/o Shyson Thomas, **all are Residing at #** 637/1, Ashwin Manor, Air Port Road, HAL Post, Bangalore-560017. **5. M/s Décor Aviation Pvt Ltd,** # 22 and 23, 3rd Main, Air view Colony, HAL, Bangalore-560017.

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of **E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **23.12.2025 - 5.00 pm.** (Rs.in lakhs)

| S.No. | Description of the immovable assets: | Reserve Price | EMD | Incremental Value |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | All that piece and parcel of the land bearing Sy. No. 54, 55 and 902 measuring 0.77 Ares, 9.75 Ares and 3.64 Ares respectively located at Chendamangalam Village, Paravur Taluk, Ernakulam District together with building bearing No. 1/527 (Total extent 14.16 Ares) and bounded as follows: East by : B Schedule Property & Thodu, West by : River, North by : Private Road & B Schedule Property, South by : Property of Puthenveetil Shelly. Coordinates of the property, Latitude- 10.186240 **Longitude- 76.204772** | 75.00 | 7.50 | 1.00 |

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
**For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com) or E-Wallet of M/s PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/) portal and may contact ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No.080-25310066, 6301683293 and 9483544116 during office hours on any working day.**

Date : 06.12.2025
Place: Bengaluru
Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

Davanagere Rural Police on Sunday arrested Shailendra Kumar, the owner of the Rottweilers that attacked and killed Anitha (38), a resident of Honnuru Gollarahatti, on Friday. Shailendra Kumar is the son-in-law of the owner of Shivali theatre in Davanagere. Police sources said he had been raising Rottweilers for the past several years.

# Publishers yet to get Rs 8 cr from govt

RASHMI PATIL @Bengaluru

THE Karnataka Kannada Writers and Publishers Association has said that the Department of Public Libraries (DPL) is yet to settle Rs 8 crore it owes to several publishers in the state.

The association's president Nidasale Puttaswamaiah told *TNIE*, "We have been requesting commissioner Basavarajendra H to settle the pending bills, but nothing has been done. Sadly, the department hasn't purchased a single book from the publishers and printers in our association."

"Twelve years ago, the government implemented a scheme 'Sagatu Pustaka Karidi Yojane' under which the DPL would purchase 300 books in bulk selected by the Book Selection Committee every year. Once thwey publish the list of books, they can purchase and settle the total bill with the respective publishers. These 300 books are further sent to 46 district and city central libraries across the state," he said.

However, this has not occurred for the past four years, Puttaswamaiah said, adding that the department published the list of books selected for 2020 and purchased them only on March 31, 2024. "There was a total bill of Rs 15 crore, out of which the payment of Rs 8 crore pending. Around 500 publishers have been waiting for the payment for more than a year," he said.

# Gazette notification on auctioning of unused liquor licences likely this week

## Base price could be set at Rs 1.5 cr for B'luru, Rs 80L to Rs 1 cr for other centres

BALA CHAUHAN @Bengaluru

THE state government is likely to issue the gazette notification on the e-auctioning of 579 unused CL-2A (retail liquor shops), CL-9A (bars & restaurants) and CL11-C (government-owned Mysore Sales International Limited) licences "early this week", well-placed sources told *TNIE*.

"Majority of licences will be auctioned for Bengaluru city. The rest will be auctioned in corporations and other taluks. CL-9A is likely to be auctioned for corporation areas like Bengaluru, Mysuru, Mangalaru and Belagavi," said the sources. "Base bidding for the auction is likely to be pegged at Rs 1.5crore for licences in Bengaluru city. For other areas, it may be between Rs 80 lakh and Rs 1 crore. The process of e-auction is slated to be over by January 10, 2026. The government is likely to mop up around Rs 600 crore revenue through the auctions," they said.

"For participating in the auction, bidders have to pay a non-refundable application fee of around Rs 50,000 and refundable Early Money Deposit (EMD) of around 3% of the base bidding price. MSTC Limited, a Government of India enterprise, will conduct these auctions through a transparent electronic (e-auction) system," added the sources.

Meanwhile, more than 20 writ petitions for renewal of lapsed licences have been filed in the court, sources said.

The government on November 3 had issued the final notification on the amendment to the Karnataka Excise (General Conditions of Licences) Rules, 1967, Karnataka Excise (Lease of the Right of Retail Vend of Beer) Rules, 1976 and Karnataka Excise (Sale of Indian & Foreign Liquors) Rules 1968 for e-auctioning of defunct/unused licences. The amended rules are now called the Second Amendment Rules, 2025 in the above three categories. Two new license categories, CL-2A for CL2 (retail liquor shops) and CL-9A for CL-9 (bars & restaurants) have been created for the unused licenses under consideration for auction.

MANUVADI COMMENT

# I follow Krishna philosophy: HDK

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

UNION Minister for Heavy Industries and Steel HD Kumaraswamy on Saturday attacked the Karnataka government and Social Welfare Minister HC Mahadevappa for branding him a "Manuvadi" and accusing him of "ideological degeneration" after he urged the Centre to include the Bhagavad Gita in school curricula.

Dismissing the Congress leaders' criticism with a reference to mythology, Kumaraswamy said, "I follow Krishnatattva, the philosophy of Lord Krishna. The Congress party believes in Kamsa-tattva, the ideology of the tyrannical Kamsa. I stand for Krishna's eternal wisdom, not the violence of Kamsa." The former Karnataka CM, who recently wrote to Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, requesting inclusion of the Bhagavad Gita in the school syllabus, questioned what exactly the Karnataka government and Mahadevappa would teach children.

"Those who call me a Manuvadi and speak of ideological downfall – let them first tell the country what they intend to teach schoolchildren," Kumaraswamy said in a strongly worded media statement.

Defending the relevance of the Gita, Kumaraswamy described it as "the light of the world, the lamp of righteous conduct, and the great essence of ideals". He suggested that Mahadevappa appeared unfamiliar with the Gita's teachings, and reminded the minister that even constitutionally elected representatives in India take the oath in the name of God or their parents – a practice rooted in sanmarga or the righteous path. Kumaraswamy asserted that Indian politics itself stands on the foundation of Krishna-tattva. "War, politics, knowledge, governance, and human relationships — the Bhagavad Gita remains the eternal guiding light. Krishna's teachings are universal and timeless," he said.

He also advised Congress leaders to read not just the Constitution and speak of democracy, but also the Bhagavad Gita. "I have never said — nor will I ever say — that the Gita should not be read," he clarified.

The issue has reignited the debate over introducing ancient Indian scriptures in modern education, with the Congress accusing the BJP and its allies of pushing a "saffron agenda".

# Children of Pachedoddi cry for CM's attention

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

LACK of reliable transport has forced students into this routine that very few children of their age endure. The long walk leaves them exhausted by the time they reach school, and many find it difficult to concentrate in class.

"Our parents brought this issue to the notice of authorities, but in vain. We have now written to the chief minister," said a student of the village who along with a few of her friends wrote the letter.

Over the years, different ministers, elected representatives and education officials have visited Pachedoddi and promised a solution, but demands like improving the road and regular bus service have been pending for far too long.

Recently, the students recorded a video of their struggle and circulated it on social media, hoping to catch the attention of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, but it didn't make any impact. Despite the hardships, children of Pachedoddi continue to pursue their education.

The long walk leaves the students exhausted by the time they reach school, and many find it difficult to concentrate in class | EXPRESS

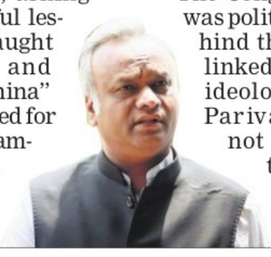
# Priyank Kharge points fingers at Sangh Parivar over Congress worker's murder

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

IT/BT Minister Priyank Kharge has strongly condemned the murder of Congress worker Ganesh Gowda in Sakharayapatna town of Kadur taluk in Chikkamagaluru district on Friday night.

In a social media post, the Congress leader said he was deeply saddened by Ganesh's death and accused the Sangh Parivar of showing its "terrorist face" through this incident. He added that the government would make sure that the killers get the toughest punishment.

Kharge also targeted the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and the BJP, asking whether "such sinful lessons" were being taught in RSS shakhas and whether "gurudakshina" funds were being used for violent activities. Slamming BJP leaders, he said they appear only when there is a death, and asked what explanation they have for a crime that is disturbing peace in society. Ganesh Gowda's murder has created a major political controversy in the region.



The Congress claims there was political motivation behind the killing and has linked it to the 'Saffron ideology' of the Sangh Parivar. The BJP has not yet responded to these specific allegations.


GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
**(PUBLIC WORKS, DEPT.)**

No. EE/PWD/BGM/AE-5/TND/NOTI/2025-26/5553 Date:06.12.2025

**-: ITEM RATE TENDER NOTIFICATION (KPPP):-**

The Executive Engineer, PWD Belagavi Division Belagavi invites item rate tenders from the eligible contractors registered in KPPP in Public Works Department under KW-4 Standard tender document for a work of 01 number with tender amount of **Rs. 14910.00 Lakhs** and EMD amount of **Rs.149.10 Lakhs. The Last date of receipt of Tender is on 15-01-2026 upto 4.30 PM and the Technical Bid Opening Date is on 16-01-2026 after 4.45 PM.** For more information contact the office of the undersigned and **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in after 10.12.2025.** (If no bids received, 3 days One Time auto extension activated).

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
Public Works Department Belagavi.
Dn Belagavi.

DIPO/BGM/RONO.1442/25-26



**Karnataka Agro Industries Corporation Limited**
( A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
Beeja Bhavana, Bellary Road, Hebbal, Bangalore-560024.
Phone: **080-23412839**, e-mail: **kaicbng@gmail.com**

No.KAIC/MD/83/2025. Date: 05.12.2025

**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR APPOINTMENT OF PROFESSIONALS FOR LIQUIDATION OF KARNATAKA AGRO INDUSTRIES CORPORATION LTD.-CALL-2**

Karnataka Agro Industries Corporation Ltd., [KAICL] Bengaluru-560024, invites for Expression of Interest from the firm of Practicing Company Secretaries/Chartered Accountants/Cost Accountants & Registered Valuers/ SFA/ IBBI Insolvency Professionals in Bengaluru for rendering services of liquidation of KAICL.

**(1)** Last date for submission of tender through e-Procurement is **on 22.12.2025 at 5.00 p.m. (2)** Date of opening of Technical Bid is **on 23.12.2025 at 11.00 a.m.** at the Registered Office. **(3)** Date of Opening of Financial Bid is on **23.12.2025 at 11.30 a.m.** (4) More information can be obtained from the e-procurement website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**

**Sd/- Managing Director**



All the news. In just a click. Log to www.newindianexpress.com | THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS



YOUR GUIDE TO SPICY LIVING
INDULGE
Every Friday with THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS



**UJVN Ltd.**
(An Uttarakhand Govt. Enterprises)
H.Q:- "UJJWAL", Maharani Bagh, G.M.S. ROAD,Dehradun-248006.
Telephone :- 0135 - 2763808, Fax : 0135 - 2763508
CIN No. - U40101UR2001SGC025866 Website: www.ujvnl.com

RO No. 960 Date: 06.12.2025

**Corrigendum No.02**
**e-Tender No. 01/DGM (E&M D-II)/UJVNL/2025-26**

Pursuant to ITB Clause 7.1, "Addendum-I" has been uploaded on e-procurement portal.

Other terms & condition shall remain same. Details of subsequent addendum/corrigendum/cancellation etc. may be obtained from e-procurement portal **"http://uktenders.gov.in".**

**Dy. General Manager (E&M Design-II)**

"AVOID WASTEFUL USE OF ELECTRICITY"



**Karnataka Food & Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd.**
(Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
No.16/I, MILLERS TANK BED AREA, BANGALORE-560 052
Ph: 080-22260932
E-mail: admnkfcsc123@yahoo.com

No: KFCSC/MKT/Foodkit/2025-26 Date: 07.12.2025

**NOTIFICATION**

Quotations are invited from well versed **Consultant Firms and Transaction Advisors** for preparation of Tender Documents pertaining to distribution of Food Kits under Anna Bhagya Scheme. More information can be obtained through Website: **kfcsc.Karnataka. gov.in**

Sd/-
Managing Director



Chola
Enter a better life

**CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED**
Corporate Office: "Chola Crest", C54 & C55, Super B-4, Thiru Vi Ka Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032, Tamil Nadu, India. Branch Office: 2nd Floor, Srinivasa Arcade, Above Karnataka Bank, Kengeri Satellite Town, Kengeri (KA)-560060. Contact: Mr. Janardhan, Mob. No.9590490222.

**E-AUCTION SALE NOTICE FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES**

**E-auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Assets under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 9(1) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.** Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower / Co-Borrower/ Mortgagor (s) that the below-described immovable properties mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the **Physical/Symbolic Possession** of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited the same shall be referred hereinafter as Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited. The Secured Assets will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" basis through E-Auction. It is hereby informed to the General public that we are going to conduct a public E-Auction through the website **https://bankauctions.in/.**

| S. No | Account No. and Name of Borrower, Co-borrower, Mortgagors | Date & Amount as per Demand Notice U/s 13(2) | Descriptions of the property/ Properties | Reserve Price / Earnest Money Deposit / Bid Increment Amount |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | **Loan Account No. HE01GAL00000066600** 1) Jugraj Kailash Kumar, 2) Jugraj G, 3) Vimaladevi, No.1 to 3 are at: No.255, Flat No.302, Paras Mansion, Akkipet, Chickpet Main Road, Near Jain Temple, Akkipet, Bangalore, Karnataka-560053. 4) Living Style, No.8, 1st Floor, Arcot, Srinivasachar Street, Chickpet, Bangalore, Karnataka-560053. | 06-12-2024 & Rs. 1,55,72,958/- as on 06-12-2024 | All that piece and parcel of the Immovable property bearing Apartment No.302, assigned municipal No.254/7 in the third floor consisting of 3 bedrooms , hall, kitchen, and toilets approximately measuring 1518.16 Square feet of super built up area along with 389.70 Square feet of undivided share in multi-storied residential building known as **"PARAS MANSIONS"** constructed on bearing No.254, 255,256,257, situated at Akkamahadevi Road, Akkipet, Bangalore - 560053, in the Corporation Ward No.29, and **bounded on the: East by:** Akkamahadevi Road, **West by:** Private property, **North by:** Private Property, **South by:** Private Property. **(Physical Possession)** | Rs.1,65,00,000/- / Rs.16,50,000/- / Rs.1,00,000/- |
| 2 | **Loan A/c No. X0HEBAN00001957542** 1) Mallikarjunaiah B.G, 2) Divya M, No.09, Nandishwara Nilaya, Bairathi, Near Hanuman Temple, Bangalore North, Karnataka-560077. 3) Divya Lighting Sounds & Tent, No.149, Byrathi, Kothanur Post, Bangalore North, Karnataka-560077. | 14-12-2023 & Rs. 27,56,570/- as on 14-12-2023 | All that Piece and Parcel of the Immovable Property Bearing BBMP Khatha No.25/44/1, Carved Out of Sy.No.44/1 Measuring 5.1/2 Guntas, and Land in Bbmp Khatha No.24/44/1, Measuring 14 Guntas, both the Land together Totally Measuring 19 1/2 Guntas, And Presently Bearing Common Amalgamated Bbmp Khatha No.24/41/1, Situated At Kyalasanahalli Village, K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Presently comes within the Jurisdiction Of BBMP, and **Bounded as follows:- East by:** Road & Private Property, **West by:** Land In Sy.No.44/1, **South by:** Road & Private Property, **North by:** Land in Sy No.39. **Schedule C Property:** Flat Bearing No.208, In First Floor, Measuring 983 Sq.Ft, Super Built-Up Area With 275 Sq.Ft, Of Undivided Share, Containing Two Bedrooms Constructed With RCC Roofing, Vitrified Flooring Along With One Covered Car Parking Space For Each Flat Including Proportionate Share in Common Areas Such as Passages, Lobbies, Staircase, Lift Etc, In The Multistoried Residential Building Complex known as SLV Paradise Constructed Over Schedule A Property Above Along With Right Over All The Amenities Provided In The Said Apartment Building. **(Physical Possession)** | Rs.26,00,000/- / Rs.2,60,000/- / Rs.50,000/- |
| 3 | **Loan A/c No. HE01KEE00000031367** 1. Sanjay Saiprasad, 2. Bindu Bangalore Puttaswamy, Both are at: No.36, Fathima Villa, JK Farm Villa, Dubasipalya, Kengeri, Bangalore, Karnataka-560059. Sandwich and Soda Shop, No.F788, Anjana Nagar, Bharath Nagar, Bel Layout, Bangalore, Karnataka-560091. | 03-08-2024 & Rs. 38,97,570/- as on 03-08-2024 | All that piece and parcel of Property Bearing Site No.70, Khatha No.42, Sy.No.4/5, situated at Sunkadakatte Village, Srigandhada Kavalu Dhakle, Yashwanthpura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, presently within the limits of BBMP, and **bounded an: East by:** Others Property, **West by:** Site No.71, **North by:** Others Property and **South by:** Road. Measuring East to West 40 + 48/2 Feet, and North to South 30 Feet, in all totally measuring 1320 Square Feet and along with Building Constructed thereon. within the Registration District of Bangalore and Sub Registration Office. **(Symbolic Possession)** | Rs.95,00,000/- / Rs.9,50,000/- / Rs.1,00,000/- |

**E-Auction Date and Time: 29-12-2025 at 11:00 am to 1:00 PM (with unlimited extension of 3 min each),**
**EMD Submission Last Date: 27-12-2025 (Up to 5.30 P.M.); Inspection Date: 18-12-2025 and 19-12-2025 (10.00 A.M to 1:00. P.M.)**

1. All Interested participants / bidders are requested to visit the website **https://bankauctions.in & www.cholamandalam.com/news/auction-notices** For details, help, procedure and online training on e-auction, prospective bidders may contact - **Mr. Muhammed Rahees - Ph.No.8124000030 / 6374845616, Ms.4 Closure.; Rekha, Ph No. 8142000062, E-mail: CholaAuctionLAP@chola.murugappa.com.**
2. For further details on terms and conditions please visit:- **https://bankauctions.in & www.cholamandalam.com/news/auction-notices** to take part in e-auction.

**THIS IS ALSO A STATUTORY 15 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER RULE 9(1) of SECURITY INTEREST (ENFORCEMENT) RULES, 2002**

**Date: 08-12-2025, Place: Bangalore** **Sd/- Authorized Officer, Cholamandalam Investment and Finance Company Limited.**



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

This is to notify the general public that our client - M/s Artek Furnishers & Interiors (P) Ltd., a company incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956, having its registered office at Plot No. B41/A, Veerasandra Industrial Estate, Hosur Road, Electronic City Post, Bengaluru - 560 100, is the absolute owner, having right, title and interest over the property detailed in the Schedule herein below and to be referred to hereinafter as "Schedule Property", vide Registered Deeds of Sale dated 26.03.1991 and 01.04.1991, executed in favour of our client- M/s Artek Furnishers & Interiors (P) Ltd. by one Sri. Shashikant M. Hanchate.

One-Ganapathi Singh, a stranger to the Schedule Property, is attempting to dispose of/create encumbrance over the Schedule Property, claiming and portraying to be its owner on the basis of fabricated documents. In the circumstances, this Public Notice is issued on behalf of our client as a warning to the general public to refrain from transacting with the said Ganapathi Singh/anyone else claiming authority under the said Ganapathi Singh, in relation to the Schedule Property. Anybody transacting with the said Ganapathi Singh/anyone else claiming authority under the said Ganapathi Singh, in relation to the Schedule Property, would be doing so at their own risk and peril and our client- M/s Artek Furnishers & Interiors (P) Ltd. will not be bound by such transaction in any manner, whatsoever.

**SCHEDULE**

Industrial Land bearing Site No. 36/A, (Eastern Portion) in Sarakki Industrial Layout, situated at Ist Main Road, J.P. Nagar, 3rd Phase, Bengaluru- 560 078, measuring East to West 180'feet and North to South 55'feet and bounded as follows:

East by : Site No. 23, West by : Road,
North by : Site No. 35, South by : Site No. 36/B.

**SIDDHANT S. DARIRA, Advocate**
**GOVINDRAJ ASSOCIATES**
#2, Ground Floor, Belview Apartments
No.7, Haudin Road, Bangalore-560042.
Tel: 080-41516548

Place: Bangalore
Date: 06.12.2025



**HDFC BANK**
We understand your world

**HDFC BANK LTD,** Mohinder Plaza, Cts No 441/A6/1 & 441/A/11/B2, Ward No 1, TB Road, Deshpande Nagar, Hubli, Karnataka - 580029.

**Notice of intended sale under Rule 8(6) of The Security Interest (Enforcement Rules) 2002 under The Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002**

To
**1. Adithi Incorp**, Represented by its prop,Mr.Shubhakar Bhuvanesh Rao 2nd floor, 60 feet road, Prashanth nagar,Bangalore -560040.
**2. Mrs. Bharathi.S.,** No-F-1 12-1 Olety mansion, 4th cross, 2nd main SVG Nagar,Bangalore -560072.
**3. Mr. Shubhakar Bhuvanesh Rao,** No-F-1 12-1, Olety mansion,4th cross, 2nd main SVG Nagar, Bangalore -560072.

Dear Sir/Madam,

**1. Ref :** Sale of secured assets of Property bearing piece and parcel of the flat no.306 bearing DoorNo.2-139/65 on the third floor building known as "PLAMA CREST" having 1160 Sq.Ft. of super built up area together with an exclusive right to use one reserved car parking in the basement Floor of the building with undivided 2.300% right, title and interest in the property of 'PLAMA CREST" situated at Hosabettu Village, Surathkal Hobli, Mangalore Taluk.

2. Please refer to the possession notice of the immovable property bearing piece and parcel of the flat no.306 bearing DoorNo.2-139/65 on the third floor building known as "PLAMA CREST" having 1160 Sq.Ft. of super built up area together with an exclusive right to use one reserved car parking in the basement Floor of the building with undivided 2.300% right, title and interest in the property of 'PLAMA CREST" situated at Hosabettu Village, Surathkal Hobli, Mangalore Taluk issued to you on 22-October-2022 and the publication of the said notice in Times of India and Vijaya Karnataka on 02-Nov-2022 by the undersigned for the purpose of realization of secured assets in exercise of the powers conferred under Section 13(12) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial assets and Security Interest Act, 2002 read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002. Till date, you have not made payment to the Bank towards discharge of your liabilities in full and hence we propose to sell the aforesaid immovable property.

We hereby serve to you a notice of thirty (30) days that the aforesaid immovable property shall be sold by the undersigned.

It is needless to add that you are entitled to redeem the securities by making payment of the dues with all costs, charges and expenses within the period of 30 days from the date of this notice as provided under sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, 2002.

Yours faithfully,

Date: 13.11.2025
Place: Mangalore

**Sd/-**
**Authorised Officer,**
**For HDFC BANK Ltd.,**

**Regd.Office : HDFC Bank Limited, HDFC Bank House, Senapati Bapat Marg, Lower Parel (West), Mumbai - 400013.**

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin at an event in Madurai on Sunday | x

# Stalin slams oppn for cheap politics in deepam row

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Madurai

TAMIL Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin on Sunday launched a scathing attack on the opposition parties over the Kathigai Deepam row at the Thiruppa-rankundram temple, charging that creation of division for political gain is not spirituality but cheap politics.

Stating that spirituality is meant to give peace of mind, harmony and unity and to bring welfare to all, he said that creating division for someone's political gain and attempting to break social harmony is certainly not spirituality. "Rather, it is politics, and that too a cheap and destructive kind of politics," he said. "In Tamil Nadu, the flame of equality lit by Periyar will continue to shine forever and no one can extinguish it. In 2026 too, with the same intensity and the same fire, the Dravidian model government will continue," said Stalin during a function to distribute welfare assistance at Kalaignar Thidal in Madurai on Sunday.

"The DMK's focus is always on the growth and progress of Tamil Nadu. But some political parties are constantly driven by thoughts of unrest. They try to create unnecessary problems and attempt to obstruct our development," Stalin said.

"I proudly tell the devotees: in just 1,490 days of our administration, we have performed Kumbabishekam for more than 3,000 temples -an unprecedented record in TN's history.If such a government is described as being against spirituality, true devotees will clearly understand the ulterior motives behind such claims. TN will always remain a eaceful state that celebrates righteousness. And when we speak of development to the people of Madurai, they welcome it wholeheartedly," he said.

# Verdict in actor sexual assault case today

P RAMDAS @ Kochi

OVER eight years after the traumatic incident and nearly five years since the start of trial, the long-awaited verdict in the 2017 actor abduction and sexual assault case is set to be delivered on Monday at 11am. Ernakulam District and Principal Sessions Court judge Honey M Varghese will pass the verdict following extensive trial proceedings that commenced on January 30, 2020.

Actor **Dileep** is the eighth accused in the case that shook Kerala. According to the prosecution, the survivor was abducted by a six-member gang and raped by first accused N S Sunil aka Pulsar Suni inside a moving car in Ernakulam on February 17, 2017. He also recorded the brutal assault on his mobile phone.

Special public prosecutor V Ajakumar told *TNIE* the prosecution took all necessary steps to ensure the culprits were brought before the law.

"The prosecution produced all digital and documentary evidence, including CCTV visuals and material,to prove the offences levelled against the accused persons," he said, adding that the primary conspiracy was between Suni and actor Dileep to allegedly record videos of the sexual assault in order to defame and demoralise the survivor.

After filing the chargesheet against the first six accused, the special investigation team moved against Dileep to establish the conspiracy. Dileep appeared before the team on July 5, 2017, and was questioned for around 12 hours. After gathering additional evidence, the police arrested him on July 10. He remained in jail for 86 days before being released on bail on October 3, 2017.According to the prosecution, Dileep believed the survivor had divulged to his wife Manju Warrier news of his relationship with Kavya Madhavan. The prosecution said its conspiracy case rests on a meticulous reconstruction of events, communications, custodial disclosures, and digital evidence, all of which point to a covert agreement between Dileep and Suni.

The proceedings witnessed tensions, with both the prosecution and the victim filing petitions alleging bias by the trial judge. By the time 80 witnesses wereexamined, petitions seeking transfer of the case were filed, which were dismissed bythe High Court. During the trial, 261 witnesses were examined. In addition, the prosecution recalled 28 witnesses for further deposition.

# All set for TG Rising Summit today

MANDA RAVINDER REDDY @ Hyderabad

TELANGANA is all set to host its first global economic conclave — Telangana Rising Global Summit 2025 — at Bharat Future City.

The two-day summit will begin on Monday and conclude on Tuesday. Over 3,000 delegates are expected to attend the summit, which will feature a total of 27 panel discussions on various topics.

The summit will be inaugurated by Governor Jishnu Dev Varma. It will begin with an inaugural session, in which Nobel laureates Abhijit Banerjee, Kailash Satyarthi, Trump Media and Technology Group Director Eric Swider, Biocon chief Kiran Mazumdar Shaw and World Economic Forum president Borge Brende will speak.

As many as 154 delegates from 44 countries will attend the summit. Of them, 46 delegates are from the US alone. Global CEOs, GCC leaders, diplomats, policymakers and senior officials will also attend the summit and speak in various sessions.

The major aim of the global summit is unveiling the vision on Telangana's development up to 2047. As the government is aiming to achieve a $1 trillion economy by 2034 and $3 trillion economy by 2047, the global summit will showcase its vision to achieve the targets.

Sources said that as many as 50 companies have held talks with the government on investment proposals.

### Over 10,000 prisoners in Kerala jails out of SIR

T'PURAM: More than 10,000 prisoners lodged in jails across the state will not be part of the ongoing SIR of electoral rolls, the office of the Chief Election Officer has said. The reason: SIR guidelines do not mention how to execute the process in the case of prisoners. Senior officials with the office of the CEO-Kerala said prisoners will not be considered for SIR as they are not 'ordinarily residents' of their address since they are in jail. They will have to apply again for inclusion in electoral roll upon their release, the officials said, adding that the eligibility will be decided by the Electoral Registration Officer (ERO).

**SEEKING BLESSINGS**

Virat Kohli at Simhachalam Sri Varaha Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple in Visakhapatnam on Sunday | EXPRESS

# *Remark on women by IUML leader's daughter sparks row*

LAKSHMI ATHIRA @ Malappuram

A single remark from a young member of the influential Panakkad family has spiralled into a wave of cyber attacks, turning what began as a theological comment into a digital assault on a 16-year-old and her family. For days, social media platforms have been ablaze with targeted posts aimed at Fathima Nargis, daughter of Indian Union Muslim League leader and Kerala Muslim Youth

League president Sayyid Munavvar Ali Shihab Thangal and the Panakkad family itself.

The controversy began last week when Fathima responded to a question about restrictions on women's entry into Sunni mosques. "Islam didn't say that women cannot enter masjids. It is some individuals, as part of certain culture, who made this rule. That should be changed. This will be part of a female revolution, and I believe this change will come soon," she said. Facing relentless online hostility, Munavvar Ali Thangal issued a detailed clarification, emphasising that his daughter was a minor who had been confronted with a complex question unexpectedly.

"My daughter is 16. Her reply is not in line with the mainstream belief systems of Kerala or the rulings of the scholarly community. I request that this be seen as a hasty opinion by a child who has not attained the necessary religious study. As a father, I am correcting her statement with full responsibility," he wrote.

# Student accuses 2 of sexual harassment

NETHAJI KUMARAMANGALAM @ Tirupati

THE National Sanskrit University (NSU), Tirupati, has been drawn into controversy following allegations of sexual harassment made by a female student against two assistant professors. Acting on a complaint lodged by the in-charge registrar, Professor Rajanikant Shukla, Tirupati West Police registered a case late Saturday night under Crime No. 183/2025. The charges include sexual harassment, intimidation, blackmail, and mental harassment.

Police have begun questioning the accused and seized their mobile phones, which are being examined for call records, messages, photographs, and video evidence as part of the investigation.

According to the FIR filed at Tirupati West Police Station on December 6, 2025 (FIR No. 183/2025), the case was registered under Sections 75(1), 77, 79, read with 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) against Assistant Professor Dr. Lakshman Kumar of the Department of Education at NSU.

The university administration has also come under scrutiny, with questions raised about why senior officials delayed filing a formal police complaint despite reportedly being aware of the situation earlier.

EXPRESS READ

### KSRTC bags Armed Forces Flag Day Award

BENGALURU: The KSRTC has once again been recognised for its sustained commitment to the Armed Forces, receiving the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund Award for the highest contribution among State government departments. This marks the corporation's 11th consecutive year winning the honour. The award was presented at Raj Bhavan in Bengaluru on Sunday as part of the Armed Forces Flag Day observance. Home Minister G Parameshwara handed over the award to Nandihinidevi K, Director (Personnel and Vigilance), KSRTC. Principal Secretary, Home Department, K.V. Sharath Chandra, IPS, and Flight Lieutenant M.S. Lolaksha (Retd.), Director (In-charge), Department of Sainik Welfare and Resettlement, were also present.

### Commander of Army Training Command in B'luru

Bengaluru: Lieutenant General Devendra Sharma, General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Army Training Command, visited Bengaluru from December 3 to 6. The visit focussed on enhancing cooperation, reviewing training infrastructure and exploring emerging technologies relevant to Indian Army's future-ready capabilities. The Army Commander visited the Air Force Training Command Headquarters. The interaction with the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Air Marshal Tejinder Singh, underscored the strengthening of cooperation and synergy between the Army and Air Force, with the discussion centred on joint training framework and inter-service cooperation, an official release said. While on a visit to Deloitte Centre of Innovation & Technology, accompanied by Lieutenant General JK Gera, Commandant, Army Service Corps (ASC) Centre & College, the Army Commander was apprised of cutting-edge solutions and the potential application of artificial intelligence into Army operations. On December 5, the Army Commander visited the ASC Centre & College, where he was briefed on all ongoing and future training initiatives. The general reviewed the infrastructural development in the establishment with specific reference to projects with high technology content in drones, logistics, mechanical transport and air maintenance. He appreciated the establishment for swiftly absorbing emerging technologies and aligning innovations with contemporary operational needs. He also visited visited The Corps of Military Police Centre and School. As the Colonel of the Regiment of Scinde Horse, the General Officer interacted with the veterans of the Regiment residing in Bengaluru, reaffirming the Army's longstanding commitment to its veteran community.

**BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD**

**INVITATION FOR TENDER** (Only through kpp portal)

BWSSB invites tenders from registered Agencies for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (North), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bangalore-560 009.

| Sl. No. | Division | IFT Number | Amount put to tender / EMD Amount | Last date & time for receipt of tender | Date & time for opening of tender |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | North-East | BWSSB/EE(N-E)/ TO/PB/3308/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 (Reserved for SC) | Rs.11,28,622/- / Rs.14,200/- | 15.12.2025 upto 4.00 pm | 16.12.2025 after 3.00 pm |
| 2 | | BWSSB/EE(N-E)/ TO/PB/3307/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 (Reserved for Category-IIA) | Rs.12,13,670/- / Rs.15,200/- | | |
| 3 | | BWSSB/EE(N-E)/ TO/PB/3306/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 (Reserved for SC) | Rs.8,93,178/- / Rs.11,200/- | | |
| 4 | | BWSSB/EE(N-E)/ TO/PB/3305/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs.14,67,795/- / Rs.36,700/- | | |
| 5 | | BWSSB/EE(N-E)/ TO/PB/3304/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs.48,41,388/- / Rs.97,000/- | | |
| 6 | | BWSSB/EE(N-E)/ TO/PB/3303/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs.48,96,983/- / Rs.98,000/- | | |
| 7 | | BWSSB/EE(N-E)/ TO/PB/3301/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 (Reserved for Category-I) | Rs.30,38,316/- / Rs.30,500/- | | |
| 8 | | BWSSB/EE(NE)/ TO/PB/3300/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs.30,28,638/- / Rs.60,600/- | | |
| 9 | | BWSSB/EE(NE)/ TO/PB/3309/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs.73,50,474/- / Rs.1,47,100/- | 23.12.2025 upto 3.00 pm | 24.12.2025 after 4.00 pm |
| 10 | | BWSSB/EE(NE)/ TO/PB/3302/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 (Reserved for ST) | Rs.79,39,863/- / Rs.79,400/- | | |
| 11 | | BWSSB/EE(NE)/ TO/PB/3299/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs.78,02,477/- / Rs.1,56,100/- | | |

Sd/- Executive Engineer (North-East)

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**. For further details contact the undersigned office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/4283/AKAR/2025-26

**BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD**

**INVITATION FOR TENDER**

(only through KPP-Portal)

**BWSSB invites Tenders from Registered Contractors for the following works.**

Office of the Chief Engineer (North), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K. G. Road, Bangalore-560009.

| Sl. No | Division | IFT Number | Amount put to Tender / EMD Amount | Last date & time for Submission of Tender | Date & Time for Opening of Tender |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | North-2 | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3053/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 (Reserved for SC Category) | Rs. 4,62,413/- / Rs. 5,800/- | 16.12.2025 upto 3:00 pm. | 17.12.2025 after 4.00 pm |
| 2. | | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3055/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs. 9,41,638/- / Rs. 23,600/- | | |
| 3. | | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3057/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs. 12,70,113/- / Rs. 31,800/- | | |
| 4. | | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3059/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs. 30,96,298/- / Rs. 62,000/- | | |
| 5. | | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3061/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs. 13,78,630/- / Rs. 34,500/- | | |
| 6. | | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3063/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs. 13,05,216/- / Rs. 32,700/- | | |
| 7. | | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3065/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs. 32,21,913/- / Rs. 64,500/- | | |
| 8. | | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3067/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 (Reserved for Cat-I) | Rs. 52,11,507/- / Rs. 52,120/- | 17.12.2025 upto 3:00 pm. | 18.12.2025 after 4.00 pm |
| 9. | | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3069/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 (Reserved for ST Catagery) | Rs. 37,42,134/- / Rs. 37,500/- | 16.12.2025 upto 3:00 pm. | 17.12.2025 after 4.00 pm |
| 10. | | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3071/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 (Reserved for Cat-II (A) Catagery) | Rs. 25,27,001 / Rs. 25,300/- | | |
| 11. | | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3074/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 (Reserved for Cat-II (A) Catagery) | Rs. 16,36,200/- / Rs. 20,500/- | 17.12.2025 upto 3:00 pm. | 18.12.2025 after 4.00 pm |
| 12. | | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3076/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs. 30,43,627/- / Rs. 61,000/- | | |
| 13. | | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3078/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs. 81,72,489/- / Rs.1,63,500/- | | |
| 14. | | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3080/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs. 80,58,235/- / Rs. 1,61,200/- | | |
| 15. | | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3082/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs. 19,45,645/- / Rs. 48,700/- | | |
| 16. | | BWSSB/ENTE/AE-1/3084/2025-26 Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs. 30,82,000/- / Rs. 61,700/- | | |

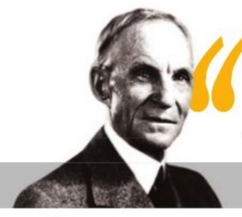
Sd/- Executive Engineer (North-2)

The detail regarding the tender & participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the abovesigned office during working hours.

DIPR/CP/4259/SSC/2025-26

All the news. In just a click. Log to www.newindianexpress.com | THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS | /thenewindianxpress @newindianxpress +The New Indian Express | GET IT ON Google Play | Download on the App Store

# EDITORIAL



"Coming together is a beginning, staying together is progress, and working together is a success" — Henry Ford

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

## RECASTING A HISTORIC PARTNERSHIP FOR A NEW GLOBAL ORDER

INDIA and Russia on Friday executed one of the most sweeping recalibrations of their partnership in over a decade, signalling unmistakably that the relationship, long anchored in defence, nuclear energy and space, is entering a decisive new phase. Despite geopolitical turbulence and Western sanctions on Moscow, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin unveiled a forceful, future-focused India-Russia Economic Roadmap 2030. This plan aims to transform economic engagement from a traditionally narrow base into a diversified engine of growth. For years, the partnership needed a modern economic architecture to match its strategic weight. This summit delivered precisely that. The new roadmap is ambitious and unapologetically strategic. It aims to catapult bilateral trade to $100 billion, institutionalise joint manufacturing, and build resilience into supply chains across critical sectors. Modi described the relationship as a "pole star" of India's foreign policy—reliable and tested over eight turbulent decades. Friday's announcements showed the two nations are ready to elevate this legacy into a forward-looking economic and technological alliance.

India will establish pharma manufacturing in Russia. Russia will join Indian fertiliser production. A mobility and migration pact will ease the movement of workers. A new ecosystem for maritime collaboration—covering shipbuilding, training, and the Northern Sea Route—will anchor long-term connectivity. Critical minerals, energy, trade facilitation, customs interoperability, and e-visa access for Russians are included in plans to modernise the bilateral economic architecture. Modi underlined that these initiatives show a shared commitment to take the partnership to "new heights", including progress toward a free trade pact with the Eurasian Economic Union.

Even as the leaders mapped the way ahead, the Ukraine conflict remained central. Modi reaffirmed India's stance: peace must come through dialogue, and India "stands on the side of peace". Putin, acknowledging India's engagement, said Moscow remains in communication with major powers, including the United States, on ways to reach a settlement. India and Russia deepened defence cooperation through more co-development, co-production, localisation and technology transfer. They are pushing national-currency trade mechanisms to protect commerce. Nuclear collaboration will accelerate with a second water reactor site, joint research and reactor component localisation. The summit marks a decisive repositioning of the partnership, assertive and future-ready. This ambitious blueprint now needs clear timelines and enforceable deadlines to turn intent into outcomes.

## K'TAKA CONGRESS TRUCE HOLDS, CRISIS UNSOLVED

THE joust for power in Karnataka may have paused, but tension between the two main players of the Congress remains. With the government completing half its term in November, the leadership crisis reached a breaking point. Two breakfast meetings between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and his deputy D K Shivakumar brought little clarity on whether power will change hands soon. While koli (chicken) curry and Cartier watches dominated media and opposition chatter, the outcome stayed hazy. The leaders have left the decision to the high command, insisting they remain "brothers" who will work together for the state and aim to win the 2028 elections. For now, hostilities have cooled due to other pressures: the winter session in Belagavi, where an aggressive opposition is set to corner the government over the power tussle, and the Congress's recent drubbing in Bihar.

The legislature session beginning Monday promises to be stormy, with the BJP and JDS likely to raise issues concerning sugarcane and maize farmers, procurement centres and compensation for crop losses. Corruption and the caste census will also take centre stage. The BJP plans a massive protest, a padayatra and a 'Grama Vastavya' led by B Y Vijayendra and R Ashoka to reach rural voters and highlight local grievances. The government is expected to take up 33 Bills, including the contentious Karnataka Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention and Control) Bill, 2025. Given its internal divisions, the BJP wouldn't want to pass up a chance to attack the Congress over the CM tussle and its impact on governance.

Camp politics and indiscipline have long plagued the Congress; groupism and loose remarks by followers have kept Karnataka's political pot boiling. Ministers shuttling to Delhi, second-rung leaders declaring ambitions, and religious and community heads commenting on power equations have all hurt the party's image. Yet the Congress's strength in Karnataka lies in its two top leaders playing complementary roles—Siddaramaiah as a mass leader and Shivakumar as the organisation's anchor. The party has faced similar infighting in Punjab, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh, and its inability to manage competing power centres led to its collapse in those states. Voters expect stability and performance, and cannot be taken for granted. The Congress leadership must craft a strategy to keep its Karnataka unit united or risk losing the state as well.

**QUICK TAKE**

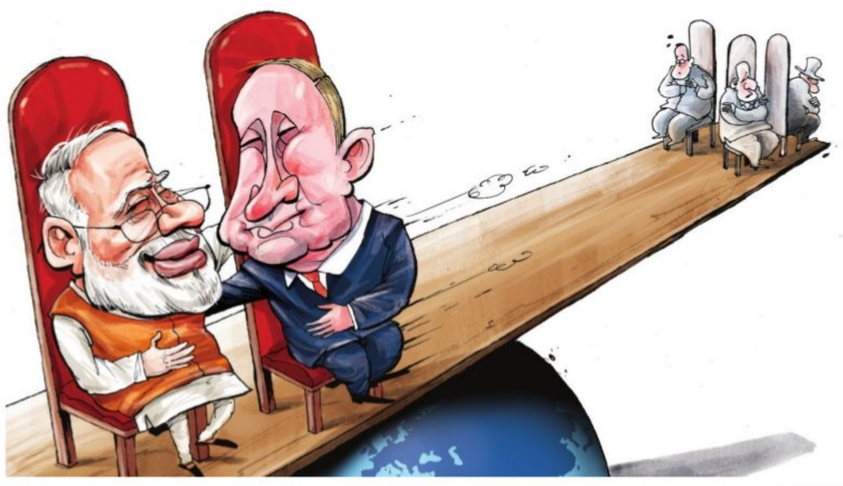
### SILENT QUARRY

UPLIFTING stories are rare these days, but a recent one from Telangana's Vikarabad district is capturing hearts. At a stone quarry, a bird watcher spotted a Rock Eagle Owl perched on a narrow ledge, patiently tending to five eggs. Forest officials stepped in quickly, and the quarry operator agreed to pause work so the sensitive bird wouldn't abandon its clutch. With the eggs expected to hatch in 32-34 days, the stark, rocky outcrop has quietly become a cradle of life. It's a small but powerful reminder that tenderness can endure even in the harshest places—and that the same gentle care can guide how humans treat one another.

Putin's Delhi visit highlighted a relationship adjusting to shifting global power equations. Modi and Putin stressed long-term strategic trust, economic ambition, and a quiet defiance of external pressure

## INDIA-RUSSIA TIES POISED TO GATHER PACE

M K BHADRAKUMAR — Former diplomat



SOURAV ROY

THE state visit by Russian President Vladimir Putin to India drew heightened international attention, which gave it the colouring of a geopolitical event. Three European ambassadors assigned to Delhi from France, Germany and the UK even resorted to pamphleteering to smear Russia, compelling a rare rebuke by the government. In the event, though, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Putin kept the focus on the bilateral content, with a long-term perspective.

Although the presence of the ghost at the banquet would have been on their minds, neither Modi nor Putin showed any signs of it. In fact, Putin embarked on the journey to Delhi right after his momentous 5-hour negotiations in the Kremlin with US President Donald Trump's special envoy Steve Witkoff and son-in-law Jared Kushner, which have held out hopes that guns may soon fall silent in the battlefields of Ukraine and promises a historic breakthrough in the adversarial Russian-American relationship that has posed formidable challenges lately to Indian diplomacy.

To be sure, the Delhi summit was held in the backdrop of a tumultuous shift of tectonic plates in the alignment of major powers, especially Russia and India. In his first public remarks with Putin, Modi went straight to the point, saying India was anything but 'neutral' in the Ukraine situation and stood for peace. It was a bold articulation of support for the coordinated efforts by Putin and Trump to bring the war to an end, the diabolical moves by the European Union and the Kiev regime to smother the nascent peace process notwithstanding.

By coincidence, perhaps, Trump chose Friday, even as Putin's visit was under way, to unveil the new National Security Strategy (NSS) of his presidency, which painted European powers as weak and raised doubts about their long-term reliability as partners; reinforced the 'America First' philosophy espousing non-intervention overseas; and called for shifting US military assets to the Western Hemisphere, "away from theatres whose relative import to American national security has declined in recent decades".

The NSS stressed improved ties with both Russia and India. On the one hand, it messaged that ending the Ukraine war is a core US interest to "reestablish strategic stability with Russia", while on the other hand, it stated the Trump administration's determination to "improve commercial (and other) relations with India to encourage New Delhi to contribute to Indo-Pacific security".

Conceivably, Moscow and Delhi could anticipate the drift of the forthcoming NSS document presaging an imminent shift in the Trump administration's strategic calculus. It must have been a daunting challenge to choreograph a summit with a superpower in such a fluid setting, and it probably accounted for the anti-climactic look of the Modi-Putin summit. The joint statement, titled 'INDIA-RUSSIA: A Time-Tested Progressive Partnership, Anchored in Trust & Mutual Respect', prudently steered clear of the geopolitical convulsions in the international environment. The entire turf of defence ties lies submerged. There was no trace of 'anti-Americanism' in the summit's proceedings.

Nonetheless, the joint statement firmly reaffirmed the further strengthening of the special and privileged strategic partnership and "emphasised the special nature of this long-standing and time-tested relationship, which is characterised by mutual trust, respect for each other's core national interests and strategic convergence". It asserted that "as major powers with shared responsibilities, this important relationship continues to be an anchor of global peace and stability that should be ensured upon the basis of equal and indivisible security".

Suffice to say, the joint statement unequivocally rejects the Western pressure on India to sever its relationship with Russia. The relevant paragraphs defiantly state, "The leaders positively assessed the multi-faceted mutually beneficial India-Russia relations that span all areas of cooperation, including political and strategic, military and security, trade and investment, energy, science and technology, nuclear, space, cultural, education and humanitarian cooperation. It was noted with satisfaction that both sides are actively exploring new avenues for cooperation while further strengthening cooperation in the traditional areas."

"The leaders underlined that India-Russia ties have remained resilient in the backdrop of the prevailing complex, challenging and uncertain geopolitical situation... Development of India-Russia relations across the entire spectrum is a shared foreign policy priority. The leaders agreed to make all efforts to unlock the full potential of the strategic partnership."

There is no question that the forceful formulation carries Modi's imprimatur, signalling India's defiance to the Trump administration, which has punished and publicly humiliated Delhi for its purchases of Russian oil.

All the same, Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov, the co-chairman of the Russian-Indian joint economic commission, was the senior-most member of Putin's entourage, which highlighted that the locomotive of the relationship will be an ambitious economic partnership with an emphasis on technology.

Several new vistas of cooperation are opening up—a deal to allow more Indian nationals to work in Russia; advancement of India's Arctic ambitions with Russian help; a joint venture to manufacture fertiliser for the Indian farmer who plays a vital role in the economy; a new era of media cooperation with the launch of *RT India*. At a public function, Putin poignantly recalled the legacy of Russian-Indian friendship at the peoples' level, and pledged to reboot it.

The signing of the reciprocal exchange of logistics agreement, a bilateral military logistics pact that allows armed forces to access each other's military facilities, gives Russia strategic access to the Indian Ocean, a region dominated by the US, China, the UK and France. It is a game-changer for India too, insofar as Russian presence in the Indian Ocean is both a force multiplier and a balancer.

Overall, the normalisation of Russian-American relations can work to India's advantage, although Trump's agenda to create a wedge in the Russia-China alliance may remain a pipe dream. The lifting of US sanctions against Russia could remove the chokepoints in the Indian-Russian payments system.

Putin is an iconic figure in the Indian public consciousness. Modi's rapport with the Russian leader is undoubtedly one of his finest achievements. The Ganga aarti, a 40-minute Hindu hallelujah as the night descended on the Ganges in Varanasi, Modi's constituency, to mark Putin's arrival on Thursday evening, was an extraordinary display of public affection.

*(Views are personal)*

## LESSONS FROM YESTERDAY

RENUKA NARAYANAN

FAITHLINE

SOCIAL media had some wounding snippets of news this week: a bridegroom cruelly trolled for being dark, young people despairing of getting an education, and parents working themselves to the bone for their children's sake. It made me want to share some personal history that reflects the ongoing struggle for respect and opportunity in our society, and how faith can fail.

My paternal grandmother, Lalita, was widowed at twenty-six. She and her children, my father and his elder sister Kanthi, were sent to her brothers as poor relatives. My father got everything, but the uncles did not think it necessary to educate Kanthi. Nevertheless, when Kanthi was eight, Lalita requested that she be sent to school so that she could earn her living one day.

The uncles said she would have to be married, but nobody suitable would marry a fatherless girl without money, so they would have to find Kanthi some poor man willing to take her for free. They said it was enough if she could read and do household accounts.

Tripurasundari, Lalita's mother, said nobody would want to marry Kanthi for being dark-skinned, since she was born brown in a pink family. She vehemently opposed Kanthi's education more than her sons did. Ringed by dragons, Lalita politely asked them not only to send Kanthi to school but also to let her have music lessons.

This gave the uncles a ladder to climb down without losing face. They said Kanthi could either go to school or have music lessons. To pacify their mother, they also said Kanthi had to get the highest marks in class each year if she wanted to go to the next one.

There was nowhere that Kanthi could study peacefully, and she was frequently interrupted by her grandmother for a new chore. Tripurasundari, a sore loser, never stopped saying how dark Kanthi was, a burden on Earth with her lack of looks and dower. Kanthi silently swore never to get married. Later, despite immense family pressure, she held by that decision.

Kanthi was not always the first in class, but she pushed herself hard so she never slipped below the top five. If Lalita caught Kanthi reading a storybook, she beat her with the *visiri kattai*, the wooden handle of her palmetto fan. Lalita had paid Kanthi's school fees with her pride and did not intend to let her squander her chance. This pressure to escape indignity through study ruled Kanthi's life. Going to college, too, was an epic struggle. Her professor at Madras University, Malcolm Adiseshiah, encouraged her. Eventually, she taught economics at no less than Delhi University.

Lalita and Kanthi earned their keep, and my father's, by doing a heavy share of housework. Lalita maintained a brave front, while Kanthi said with iron resolve, "I loathe self-pity."

FLICKR/CREATIVE COMMONS

> While growing up, I witnessed women struggling to earn their keep by balancing education and the heavy share of household work. One maintained a brave front, while the other continued with an iron resolve of loathing self-pity. This mirrored a society where faith, too, can fail

The Freedom movement had begun to stir up the Madras Presidency, the oldest bastion of British rule in India. The uncles were pro-British and disliked political opinions in women. So, Kanthi and Lalita spoke of it covertly, for Lalita was intensely nationalistic.

Lalita had somehow taught herself to read English, Hindi and Urdu, and used part of her scant allowance to buy newspapers in all three languages. She began to keep a secret political diary that Kanthi read only after her death. In it, said Kanthi, she had poured out all her hopes and apprehensions about the social and political future of the country, its communal rifts, and her own absolute abhorrence of caste and gender discrimination.

Tripurasundari scoffed at Lalita's reading, especially of English books, but could not really object since Lalita sat down to read only in the afternoon after completing any number of household chores.

A cousin from Vellore began to visit in the early 1940s. A well-read and highly intelligent lady, she was married to a rich but uneducated man, who liked to drink and party with the men of his neighbourhood.

This lady had not been allowed to study but had taught herself to read. She had a keen interest in Marxism, and in Lalita she found a kindred spirit. She came by often, and they would read the Communist Party paper *Janasakti*. They secretly procured P Jeevanandham's banned Tamil translation of Bhagat Singh's essay *Why I Am an Atheist*, which they hid under a newspaper cover.

Lalita and her cousin spent hours discussing politics at the temple, the only place they could visit freely. It is a piquant thought that these two outwardly meek women sat in a corner of the open courtyard of a temple as the safest place in which to discuss Marxism, atheism and caste.

Lalita introduced her cousin to Dr Samuel, a Tamil Christian lady doctor known as 'Apathikaari Amma', the woman apothecary. Dr Samuel gave Lalita a picture of Baby Jesus and Mother Mary, which she kept in her puja corner, in accordance with the ingrained Hindu belief that 'God is One', next to a picture of her beloved Kanchi Kamakshi. Kanthi, however, turned atheist, disgusted by the cruelty of 'believing' society.

When my father found employment and took Lalita away to hired lodgings in Madras, she took a sweet-natured Dalit couple in as part-time help. Neither Lalita nor Kanthi kept 'separate' glasses and plates for their household help, a practice I follow. They believed it was important to serve them with affection and dignity, on proper plates, and to give them tea in unchipped cups. Personal pushbacks against the crushing weight of the centuries, which are still going on, alas.

*(Views are personal)*
*(shebaba09@gmail.com)*

## MAILBAG

**WRITE TO:** letters@newindianexpress.com

### Reliant rupee

Ref: *India's paradox* (Dec 7). The coexistence of strong growth and a weakening rupee underlines deeper structural gaps that quick fixes can't hide. A steadier currency will follow only when reforms strengthen productivity and reduce our reliance on short-term capital flows.
**Avinashiappan Myilsami, Coimbatore**

### Air infra

Ref: *Smash India's aviation tyranny* (Dec 7). The aviation chaos underscores how a duopoly erodes public interest and reduces passengers to hostages of private power. IndiGo's collapse and the regulatory retreat expose a dangerous void where profit eclipses responsibility. India needs stronger oversight and recognition of aviation as essential infrastructure.
**K Chidanand Kumar, Bengaluru**

### Ecological harmony

Ref: *Hell on Earth?* (Dec 7). Infrastructure and employability apart, a city's liveability infusing a sense of longing through harmony with nature is equally important. Air pollution during winter, artificial flooding during monsoon and water crises during summer have come to stay as an urban curse.
**Sachidananda Satpathy, Sambalpur**

### Unsettling future

The powerful and almost haunting observation captures an unsettling feeling many Indians experience today—the sense that urban chaos isn't confined to our streets but has seeped into our collective imagination, leaving us unsure where true refuge remains. This loss of sanctuary is not just physical but emotional, forcing us to confront an improbable future.
**Narayanan Kizhumundayur, Thrissur**

### Airlines' priorities

Ref: *Govt caps fares* (Dec 7). Capping fares and ordering refunds were necessary steps, but they also exposed Indian aviation's fragility. When one major carrier stumbles, the whole network feels it. Passengers deserve an industry that protects them, not one that treats disruption as an opportunity.
**Maanya N Kadam, Bengaluru**

### Jaiswal's stunner

Ref: *ODI balm for Test scar* (Dec 7). Team India gave us all a huge reason to cheer yesterday. They completely outplayed the Proteas. It was an amazing finish to an exciting competition. Watching Yashasvi Jaiswal score a massive hundred, and Virat Kohli hit a quick score, was fantastic.
**Shamil Nazer, Kozhikode**

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS
Chairman of the Board: **Manoj Kumar Sonthalia** Editor: **Santwana Bhattacharya**
Published by **N Gopalan** on behalf of Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited, at No. 1, Queen's Road, Bengaluru - 560 001 and printed by him at Express Press, Plot No. 2A, Bommasandra Industrial Area, 4th Phase, Survey No. 46, Part Yarandahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk. Bengaluru - 560 099. **Bengaluru.** Vol. 61, No. 289 RNI Reg. No. 3457/1960. Phone: 080-22866893. **Copyright:** Express Publications (Madurai) Private Limited. All rights reserved. Reproduction in any manner, electronic or otherwise, in whole or in part, without prior written permission is prohibited.

**POSTS OF THE DAY**

**Shashi Tharoor** @ShashiTharoor
My appeal to voters in Kerala to cast their votes in the local self-government elections. I am sacrificing my attendance record in Parliament by heading there myself tomorrow to do so.

**Akhilesh Yadav** @yadavakhilesh
Why have the BJP government's wrong policies turned into people's tears? If the BJP goes, the country can take flight again!

**Kiren Rijiju** @KirenRijiju
As we observe #ArmedForcesFlagDay, my heartfelt salute to our brave soldiers whose courage & commitment embody the soul of our nation... Gratitude today & always.

Govt, oppn demand answers from each other on different issues a day before Parliament takes up crucial debates

# GOA FIRE 'CRIMINAL FAILURE OF GOVERNANCE': RAHUL

**My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families. This is not just an accident; it is a criminal failure of safety and governance. A thorough, impartial and transparent probe must fix accountability**

Rahul Gandhi, LoP in Lok Sabha

**Kharge calls it avoidable**

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge expressed his condolences to those who lost their loved ones in the blaze. He said that this was an avoidable incident causing irreparable loss.

**EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE** @ New Delhi

THE Congress on Sunday demanded a full-scale investigation and strict accountability for the tragic fire at a nightclub in Goa that killed 25 people, with Rahul Gandhi claiming it was a criminal failure of safety and governance.

In a post on X, Gandhi, the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, said he was deeply pained by the tragic fire in Arpora. "My heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families and wishes for the speedy recovery of the injured. This is not just an accident; it is a criminal failure of safety and governance. A thorough, transparent probe must fix accountability and ensure such preventable tragedies don't occur again," he wrote.

The fire broke out at Birch by Romeo Lane, a popular nightclub at Arpora village in North Goa, early Sunday, killing at least 25 people, including four tourists and 14 staff members, and injuring six others.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge expressed his deepest condolences to those who lost their loved ones in the blaze. "This avoidable, tragic incident is an irreparable loss, and I pray for the speedy recovery of all those who have been injured." "Such tragedies call for a comprehensive investigation, strict accountability, and immediate steps to ensure that all fire safety norms are enforced, so that such devastating incidents are never repeated," Kharge said in a post on X.

The Congress chief also appealed to all the Congress workers in the coastal region to extend every possible support and assistance to the affected families and stand with them in this hour of grief. Congress general secretary in charge of organisation, K C Venugopal, sought fixing of accountability for the tragic blaze so that such incidents are not repeated.

"The fire at a nightclub in Goa is completely shocking. This tragedy took place because of the negligence of the authorities in enforcing fire safety norms. We urge a thorough and impartial investigation to identify those responsible and to ensure accountability," he said in a post on X.

# CONG DESTROYED LEGACY OF PATEL, AMBEDKAR: BJP

**Today, if anyone is causing most damage to the legacy of Nehru, it is the members of the so-called Gandhi family themselves who are out on bail in the National Herald case**

Sambit Patra, BJP spokesperson

**'BJP not rewriting history'**

The BJP is not trying to rewrite history, said Patra, adding that the BJP is trying to rectify the history and give due recognition to the people who really contributed towards the country's freedom

**RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR** @ New Delhi

THE Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Sunday criticised Congress leader and Rajya Sabha MP Sonia Gandhi over her allegation that the BJP is attempting to erase Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru's legacy.

At a media briefing at the party's central office, BJP national spokesperson Sambit Patra accused the Congress of destroying the legacies of several national leaders to preserve what he termed the "so-called legacy" of Nehru.

He said the Congress had undermined the contributions of leaders such as Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose and Dr B.R. Ambedkar. "Today, if anyone is causing the most damage to the legacy of Nehru, it is the members of the so-called Gandhi family themselves, who are out on bail in the National Herald case," he said, a day ahead of the scheduled Lok Sabha discussion on "Vande Mataram".

"When there will be a debate on Vande Mataram in Parliament tomorrow, I feel that the reality of Nehru will be revealed to everyone; he will again be exposed." Prime Minister Narendra Modi will initiate the debate on the 150th anniversary of the national song, Vande Mataram, in the Lok Sabha on Monday, while Home Minister Amit Shah will begin the discussion in the Rajya Sabha on December 9.

On Sonia Gandhi's accusations that a systematic attempt is being made to demolish Nehru's multifaceted legacy and rewrite history, Patra hit back, saying the BJP is only trying to ensure that due recognition is given to leaders.

"The BJP is not trying to rewrite history. The BJP is trying to rectify the history and give due recognition to the people who really contributed towards the independence of this country and to the various other facets of this country," he added.

Referring again to the National Herald case, Patra said, "If this is not to tarnish Nehru's legacy, then who is tarnishing it?" The Lok Sabha has allocated 10 hours for the debate on Vande Mataram's 150th anniversary.

# Could have caused more harm, but was restrained during Op Sindoor: Singh

**MAYANK SINGH** @ New Delhi

DEFENCE Minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday said Operation Sindoor was a historic success due to strong connectivity, and while the forces could have achieved much more, they did only what was necessary.

The minister was in Ladakh to inaugurate 125 strategically significant infrastructure projects of Border Roads Organisation (BRO).

Speaking about Operation Sindoor, Rajnath underscored, "Our Armed Forces launched the operation in response to the horrific terrorist attack in Pahalgam. We could have done much more, but our forces, demonstrating both courage and patience, only did only what was necessary. Such a massive operation was possible due to our strong connectivity. Logistics were delivered to the Armed Forces in a timely manner. Our connectivity with the border areas was maintained, making the operation a historic success."

The Infrastructure projects are spread across 2 Union Territories – Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir - and 7 states - Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, West Bengal & Mizoram. The projects – 28 roads, 93 bridges and 04 miscellaneous - have been completed at a cost of approximately ₹5,000 crore, the highest-value inaugurations in the BRO's history.

As first reported by this newspaper, Rajnath was to unveil included 28 roads, 93 bridges and four miscellaneous strategic facilities across seven states and two Union Territories.

These upgraded infrastructure projects will significantly improve last-mile connectivity to remote villages and forward military locations, bringing these areas closer to the national mainstream.

The event was organised on the Darbuk-Shyok-Daulat Beg Oldie Road at the Shyok Tunnel, which is among the key projects inaugurated.

# Army to get 40K Israeli light machine guns in five years

**MAYANK SINGH** @ New Delhi

**We are also collaborating with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and various agencies within MHA to sell our complete range of products, which includes pistols, rifles, and light machine guns**
— Shuki Schwartz, CEO of Israel Weapon Industries

THE infantry of the Indian Army will get a firepower boost beginning next year, as an Israel-based defence firm confirmed it will supply 40,000 light machine guns (LMGs) to India starting from early next year. The talks between Israel Weapon Industries (IWI) are also in progress to collaborate with various agencies within India's Ministry of Home Affairs to market their products, including pistols, rifles, and machine guns.

Shuki Schwartz, CEO of Israel Weapon Industries (IWI), said, "We're now involved in three significant programmes. First is the contract for 40,000 light machine guns, which was signed last year. We have completed all tests, trials, and government checks, and we have received the licence for production. We intend to supply the first batch at the beginning of the year."

"LMGs supply is for five years. We can do it faster, but the first supply will be at the beginning of the year," he said.

Talking about another important infantry weapon, the IWI CEO said that it was in the final stages of signing a contract to supply nearly 170,000 new-age CQB (close quarters battle) carbines. "We intend to supply 40 per cent of the contract. We are in the stage of pre-signing of the contract," Schwartz said.

Sixty per cent of the CQB carbine supply will be sourced from Bharat Forge, while the remaining 40 per cent (170,000 units) will be delivered by PLR Systems, a subsidiary of the Adani Group. The IWI is in the process of expanding its presence. "We are also collaborating with the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and various agencies within MHA to sell our complete range of products, which includes pistols, rifles, and light machine guns," he said.

Around 10 lakh strong Central Armed Police Forces come under the MHA. When asked about annual supply numbers, he mentioned it could be "tens of thousands of weapons a year."

## INSIDER TRACK

### Russian folk tune and Indian link

At the Rashtrapati Bhavan state dinner hosted by President Droupadi Murmu for Vladimir Putin, the Rashtrapati Bhavan Naval Band brought an unexpectedly cheerful moment by playing "Kalinka." This famous Russian folk tune, composed by Ivan Larionov in 1860, often appears at diplomatic events as its lively rhythm travels easily across borders. For Indian audiences, the melody also carries a familiar warmth due to its Hindi adaptation, "Darling," in 7 Khoon Maaf, sung by Usha Uthup. That connection may explain why it is instantly popular here. "Kalinka" has appeared at many multilateral gatherings, from BRICS to the SCO summit in Tianjin, where cameras caught it playing as Putin met Xi Jinping. It is not an official anthem, but it is clearly a tune with global stamina.

### TMC–Congress tussle

Inside the Trinamool Congress, there is near-total clarity: an alliance with the Congress for next year's West Bengal Assembly polls looks unlikely. Despite polite public gestures, the relationship is visibly strained. TMC insiders cite a recent example to show their frustration. While the Congress criticised the electoral roll revision, it failed to provide even one Booth Level Agent when the TMC asked for help with BLOs and objecting to deletions or suspected manipulation. For TMC leaders, this confirms their belief that Congress has virtually no organisational presence in Bengal. As one insider put it, if Congress cannot provide BLAs, why consider them for a pact? For now, the TMC is confident it can win on its own. Polls are month away, but for now the TMC is firm that it doesn't need the Congress in Bengal.

### Nadda's personal touch for TB end

It is routine for a health minister to brief parliamentarians on major health concerns. JP Nadda, however, has added an unusual personal layer. He is determined to foster a united political push for a TB-Mukt Bharat and is meeting MPs state by state to build support. The latest WHO report notes a decline in TB cases and deaths, but India still ranks among the eight countries contributing 67% of global cases in 2024. India aims to eliminate TB by 2025. Nadda has already spoken with MPs from large states like Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, and Bihar. He is now reaching out to MPs from smaller states. Nadda's personal touch may well spur MPs to turn the TB-free India mission into a true 'jan andolan'.

### For Congress, after RJD, it's SP

After the Bihar election setback strained its ties with the RJD, the Congress now seems to be drifting apart from another ally, the Samajwadi Party (SP) in Uttar Pradesh. In Parliament's Winter Session, the SP stayed away from the Special Intensive Revision of voter rolls on the second day of the session. Behind the scenes, MPs from both parties blame each other for widening the gap. One SP functionary was overheard saying the party is not interested in an alliance with Congress for the upcoming panchayat elections. Leaders on both sides quietly admit the gap is growing and is now harder to ignore.

### Navneet Sehgal's exit raises eyebrows

Navneet Kumar Sehgal arrived at Prasar Bharati in the morning as chairman and, by afternoon, had resigned in a cloud of mystery. He spent the early hours having coffee, attending meetings and smiling through routine interactions, but by late afternoon, his resignation letter lay on the table. The suddenness left bureaucrats stunned. Sehgal, a retired UP-cadre IAS officer known for maintaining good equations with every government—SP, BSP, BJP—seemingly hit an unexpected eject button. Some insiders whisper that a few old "friends" triggered an online storm that made his position uncomfortable, while others speculate he may be headed toward something bigger and less tied to Doordarshan. For now, only CEO Gaurav Dwivedi knows what unfolded, and he isn't saying a word.

# Heated debate likely at UN green body meet

**SV KRISHNA CHAITANYA** @ Nairobi

A high-stakes political battle over the UN Environment Programme's (UNEP) Medium-Term Strategy (MTS) is set to dominate the opening of the seventh UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-7) in Nairobi commencing on Monday, with member states divided on whether the organisation's next five-year mandate should be renegotiated or adopted as is.

In an interaction with journalists ahead of the Assembly, Martin Krause, Director of UNEP's Climate Change Division, told this newspaper, discussions on the 2026–2030 MTS, which defines UNEP's global agenda across climate, biodiversity, pollution and land degradation, remain "fluid", with intense behind-the-scenes bargaining over language and scope.

"It is very fluid, you know, they met yesterday in the afternoon for informals. It is unclear at this moment where this will go. It is fluid, you know, there is a lot of work behind the scenes to find a common ground on certain terminology and language that some countries are opposing," Krause said.

The big question is, should the MTS and all of that be opened up actually for negotiation, for introducing new language, new paragraphs, or is it as it is? The stakes could not be higher. The MTS is effectively UNEP's operating licence that determines programmatic priorities, unlocks budget approval and ensures coherence across its global work. "This is the world telling UNEP what to do. Without endorsement, we cannot operate," Krause stressed.

The outcome, likely to hinge on ministerial interventions next week, will shape UNEP's trajectory for the next half decade.

"Because, you know, do not forget there was a period of 15 months of consultations preceding this moment where we are right now. And at some point, you also have to close it, you cannot go on and on and on," he added.

While navigating this strategic uncertainty, UNEP is also wrestling with a funding crunch. Krause confirmed that UNEP's regular budget allocation from New York suffered a 20% reduction, largely due to the US' decision to halt payments to the UN and similar reductions by other contributors.

More substantial is the hit to the Environment Fund (EF), which is UNEP's primary, voluntary but formula-based source of core funding. "The US contributed around 7% to the EF, and that has fallen away. Combined with reductions from others, we are looking at an 11–12% drop," he said. This fund covers staff salaries, programmatic support and global coordination — making its decline structurally damaging.

UNEP is increasingly reliant on extra-budgetary pledges from donor governments and on resources mobilised from the Green Climate Fund and Global Environment Facility.

UNEA-7 will also open with a slimmer agenda of resolutions than expected. Of the 19 draft resolutions initially submitted, four were withdrawn before negotiations formally began, including Bolivia's proposal, which could not secure adequate backing. "All 15 remaining resolutions are technically alive, but some are on life support," Krause observed.

Still, UNEP hopes certain issues will gain political traction if their resolutions survive the week.

# India a living culture, not just grand monuments: PM at Unesco meet

**PARVEZ SULTAN** @ New Delhi

FOR India, heritage has never been just nostalgia, but it's a living and growing river, a continuous stream of knowledge, creativity and community, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday.

"Our civilisational journey has been shaped by the understanding that culture is enriched not only by monuments or manuscripts, but also thrives in the everyday expressions of people such as festivals, rituals, arts, and craftsmanship," he said. The PM said intangible heritage carries the "moral and emotional memories" of societies, urging its preservation to save the world's cultural diversity.

This was his written message to a gathering of delegates attending the 20th session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH), being held at the Red Fort.

It was read out on the occasion of its opening ceremony on Sunday. This is the first time that India is hosting a session of the UNESCO panel from December 8-13.

PM Modi's message was read by Union Culture Secretary Vivek Aggarwal in the presence of External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, the chief guest, Union Culture Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat and UNESCO Director-General Khaled El-Enany, among other dignitaries on the dais.

Modi, in his message, said that it was a matter of great pride that India was hosting this key session. From thematic galleries to performing arts, India showcased its rich cultural heritage at the Red Fort complex as the inaugural ceremony of a key UNESCO meeting on 'safeguarding intangible legacy' began.

India's Ambassador and Permanent Delegate to UNESCO, Vishal V Sharma, were present at the opening ceremony.

According to UNESCO, the session will examine nominations submitted by state parties for inscription on the UNESCO ICH lists, review the status of existing elements, and provide international assistance for safeguarding intangible cultural heritage.

In his address, Shekhawat said that the Red Fort had been an iconic witness to the continuity of life in India. India hosting this meet is not just a matter of pride, but a reminder that cultural ethics echo through its rich past, he said.

**DEMOLISHED**

Jaipur authorities demolished an under-construction multi-storey building in Malviya Nagar on Sunday after cracks appeared and the structure began to lean the previous day, officials said.

6kg HEROIN, PISTOL RECOVERED ALONG IB IN PUNJAB

| INDIA | Max | Min | | Max | Min |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Ahmedabad | 29 | 16 | Mumbai | 30 | 24 |
| Bhopal | 26 | 11 | Panaji | 33 | 22 |
| Jaipur | 27 | 13 | Patna | 24 | 14 |
| Amritsar | 23 | 06 | Lucknow | 25 | 11 |
| Chennai | 28 | 24 | Port Blair | 29 | 27 |
| Kolkata | 26 | 17 | Imphal | 23 | 11 |
| Srinagar | 13 | -1 | Chandigarh | 24 | 08 |

# Mobile tower signals shift away from Maoists' muscle in C'garh

Bijapur villagers celebrate arrival of phone network with folk drums and in traditional dresses

EJAZ KAISER @ Raipur

THE inhabitants of Kondapalli village in Chhattisgarh's Bijapur district feel that their lives have taken a turn for the better after the Maoists' stranglehold was dismantled by security forces. The remote area got mobile connectivity for the first time in April this year, an achievement cited to be a sign of decline of influence of Left-wing extremism. The Kondapalli gram panchayat also received electricity from this year.

Kondapalli tribal families rejoiced at the installation of a new mobile tower in their village and celebrated the occasion with dancing in colourful tribal costumes to the beats of traditional 'mandar' hand drum.

"Under the shadow of Maoist terror, our region remained deprived of basic amenities like roads, electricity and mobile connectivity. So far, over 60% households have mobile phones. These days banking, government welfare schemes and Aadhaar are linked to mobile phone numbers. The convenience of mobile services is promoting rural residents' happiness," Lakshmi Yasam, Kondapalli gram panchayat sarpanch, told this newspaper.

Kondapalli is about 70 km from the Bijapur district headquarters, located within the forested terrain along the Telangana–Chhattisgarh border. Kondapalli gram panchayat covers three villages with over 150 families. The tribal residents continue accessing the benefits of mobile phone communication across its rural belt for the past six months. "It's like the beginning of a good life as we are witnessing how the use of mobile phones doing good during health emergencies and for education of children. Our village now stays connected to the outside world," said Baldeo Nekho, a local farmer.

For several years, Kondapalli faced challenges in accessing communication, transport and public services. Administrative teams struggled to reach the area owing to inhospitable terrain and Maoists' obstruction. Now, the region is moving towards swift development.

CM Vishnu Deo Sai described the Kondapalli achievement as a new beginning for Bastar's future. "Mobile connectivity in Kondapalli is not merely an expansion of communication infrastructure but a revival of aspirations that were suppressed for years," he said.

In the last couple of years, 728 new mobile towers have been installed, including 116 in Maoist-affected areas and 115 in 'aspirational' districts. For the first time, digital connectivity is transforming the lives of families in dense forest and hilly terrains.

**Kondapalli village in Bijapur received mobile connectivity and electricity for the first time in April—a big shift in a region long affected by left-wing extremism**

*A NEW DAWN IN RED BASTION*

Located **70** km from Bijapur HQ near the Telangana–Chhattisgarh border, Kondapalli had remained cut off from communication and services for years

The arrival of a new mobile tower triggered celebrations among over **150** adivasi families across the three villages under Kondapalli gram panchayat

Now, over 60% of households have mobile phones, enabling smoother access to banking, Aadhaar-linked services, welfare schemes, health support, and education

Local residents describe mobile connectivity as the "beginning of a good life", providing a crucial link to the outside world

The recent improvements reflect better security operations, increased administrative outreach and focused government efforts, leading to faster development

**10 Naxals with ₹2.36-cr bounty surrender in MP**

Ten hardcore Naxalites with a total bounty of ₹2.36 crore surrendered in front of Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav in Balaghat on Sunday evening, officials said. It is said to be the biggest development in anti-Naxal operations in the Maoist-infested Balaghat district

# Bihar fast-tracks disposal of cases with 100 new courts to tackle backlog

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

BIHAR Deputy CM and Home Minister Samrat Choudhary on Sunday announced that the state government will establish 100 fast-track courts (FTCs) to ensure the swift disposal of pending cases.

The move is aimed at clearing the backlog of cases, reducing the burden on the judiciary and ensuring that cases of a sensitive nature get due time and attention.

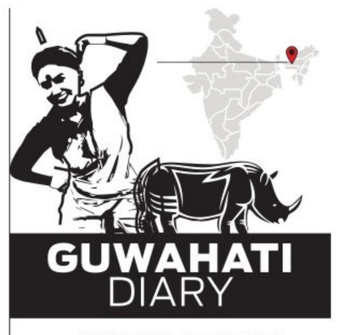
Highlighting the need for the move, Chaudhary noted that more than 18 lakh cases were pending in various courts across the state. He added eight fast-track courts have already been proposed in Patna, while four courts each will be established in Gaya, Muzaffarpur, Darbhanga, and Bhagalpur. Further, three fast-track courts would be set up in Nalanda (Bihar Sharif), Rohtas (Sasaram), Saran (Chhapra), Begusarai, Vaishali (Hajipur), East Champaran (Motihari), Samastipur and Madhubani each. Similarly, two fast-track courts each will operate in West Champaran (Bettiah), Saharsa, Purnea, Munger, Nawada, Jehanabad, Arwal, Aurangabad, Kaimur (Bhabua), Buxar, Bhojpur (Arrah), Sitamarhi, Sheohar, Siwan, Gopalganj, Supaul, Madhepura, Araria, Kishanganj, Katihar, Banka, Jamui, Sheikhpura, Lakhisarai, and Khagaria. One fast-track court each is also proposed for the subdivisional courts of Naugachhia and Bagaha.

Discussing the future course of action, Chaudhary shared that cases jointly identified by the district magistrates and senior superintendents of police or superintendents of police will be disposed of as a priority. A large-scale recruitment of personnel will also be undertaken for the establishment of the fast-track courts across 38 districts and subdivisions in the state.

A total of 900 positions are proposed for each court.

**Bishnoi aide arrested for death threat to farmer**

Bihar police arrested a sharpshooter of the dreaded Lawrence Bishnoi gang, Shashank Pandey, and his three associates from the West Champaran district late on Saturday. They have been booked for issuing a death threat to an influential farmer in the district and setting ablaze his farmhouse after vandalising it on Friday. Further probe is on.



## GUWAHATI DIARY

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR

Our correspondent in Guwahati

prasantamazumdar@newindianexpress.com

### Kelvin Cinema returns in contemporary avatar

One of Assam's most storied cinema halls has begun a new chapter. Kelvin Cinema, founded in 1935 by Jeevanram Goenka in the bustling lanes of Fancy Bazar in Guwahati, is returning in a contemporary avatar. Kelvin Gold Cinema has unveiled a new two-screen multiplex within the original Kelvin compound, offering a seating capacity of 499, including 24 ultra-luxurious recliners. The modern space features a sleek design and auditoriums fitted with the latest cinematic technology. Its inauguration took place last Wednesday. The Goenka family has played a key role in shaping Assam's business and cultural landscape.

### Empowering youth with disabilities

"Shishu Sarothi," an NGO dedicated to empowering children and persons with disabilities, has joined hands with Assam Skill University and Gateway Institute of Hotel Management, with the signing of an MoU. The collaboration marks the beginning of a dedicated hospitality skill development programme. The partnership is designed to open up structured, high-quality training avenues that align with current industry demands in the hospitality sector. By combining academic excellence, practical skill training, and support, the three institutions aim to create sustainable career pathways and improve employment prospects for youth with disabilities.

### Army summits mountain peak, scripts history

The Indian Army made history by summiting Mount Kangto (7,042 m/ 23,103 ft) in Arunachal Pradesh. This marks the first recorded successful ascent of Kangto, long regarded as an unclimbed guardian of the Kameng Himalayas. The 18-member team undertook a grueling expedition across rugged terrain. Braving extremely rarefied air, harsh sub-zero conditions, treacherous icy ridgelines, deep crevasses, and near-vertical ice walls, the climbers showcased the hallmark attributes of the Indian Army—unmatched grit and discipline. The ascent reflects the Indian Army's commitment to pushing the boundaries," a defence ministry statement said.

GWALIOR

# Cheetah cub dies after vehicle hit, 2 deaths in 3 days

ANURAAG SINGH @ Bhopal

A 20-month-old male cheetah cub that had ventured out of the Kuno National Park (KNP) died after being hit by an unidentified vehicle on a highway in Madhya Pradesh's Gwalior district early on Sunday.

The incident occurred on the Agra–Mumbai National Highway in the Ghatigaon area close to the Shivpuri district border. The cub had got separated from its mother, Gamini, after straying out of the KNP.

"A speeding vehicle (car) struck one of the cubs, killing it instantly. The cheetah tracking team and the local forest staff were continuously monitoring both cubs," the field director of Project Cheetah noted in an official statement released in the evening, adding, "The accident happened suddenly even as the tracking team attempted to stop the speeding vehicle from hitting the cheetah."

The vehicle suspected to have fatally struck the cub was traced and intercepted hours later in Rajasthan's Kota district. A case has been registered in connection with the incident.

Notably, another cub was found dead on Friday, a day after being released into the KNP.

# Dhanbad residents resist admin's relocation efforts away from gas leak area

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

THE Dhanbad administration has intensified its efforts to relocate 10,000 families from Kenduadih after a toxic gas leak left two women dead and several others ill on Wednesday.

According to Dhanbad Deputy Commissioner Aditya Ranjan, the affected families are reluctant to shift. On Saturday, several of them were taken to the proposed site in Belgadia, but they were reluctant citing trivial issues.

The gas leak was first reported in Rajput Basti, where two women died and over two dozen—mostly women and children—were admitted to BCCL's Kustore Regional Hospital and Central Hospital, Dhanbad.

The impact of the gas is being felt in the Rajput Basti, Masjid Mohalla, and Officers Colony areas of Kenduadih—home to a population of approximately 10,000 people.

Ranjan said that the administration has also agreed to set up sheds for their cattle and is still awaiting their consent.

"The affected families are concerned about their cattle upkeep if relocated to the propose site. We have also agreed to provide cattle shed to them,

still they are reluctant," the Deputy Commissioner said.

Meanwhile, amid protests and deep mistrust among residents, a team of NDRF from Ranchi entered Rajput Basti in the Putki–Balihari Colliery Area on Sunday to assess the suspected poisonous gas emission that has triggered panic, hospitalisations and fears of large-scale displacement in one of Dhanbad's most vulnerable underground fire zones.

As the NDRF team started its ground assessment on Sunday, residents of Rajput Basti strongly protested and tried to halt the operation.

Protesters alleged that BCCL was using the "gas leakage" as a pretext to clear the settlement for a planned mega coal project, said one of the locals, Lal Bahadur Singh.

# With Gita & Babri, poll battle takes religious turn in Bengal

SUBHENDU MAITI @ Kolkata

FOR the first time, politics of religious polarisation seems to be dominating the Assembly polls scheduled for next year in West Bengal. This shift in focus comes despite the ruling TMC government facing charges of large scale corruption, and brutal rape and murder of a woman PGT doctor at R G Kar Medical College Hospital.

The holding of two separate mega religious events – in Murshidabad district and Kolkata's Brigade Parade ground – during past 24 hours since Saturday afternoon – prompted the ruling TMS and the Opposition BJP to attack each other on religious issues but not developments and employment generations. The suspended rebel TMC MLA Humayun Kabir on Friday laid the foundation stone for a 'Babri Masjid' in Beldanga of Murshidabad district and threatened to float a new political platform of mainly minority community to contest 90 out of total 294 Assembly seats in the forthcoming polls.

According to political observers, Kabir attempted to engineer a new political narrative among Muslims, who form over 30% of Bengal voters and traditionally vote for Trinamool Congress since the party came to power in 2011. Fearing a possible erosion in the majority Hindu vote bank in favour of the Trinamool, the party supremo Mamata Benrjee suspended Kabir for his anti-party activities mainly communal statements ahead of the elections.

On Sunday, Bengal witnessed a massive Bhagavad Geetha recital at Brigade Parade ground where the Bengal Governor C V Ananda Bose was present triggering a controversy.

While addressing in the programme, Bose asserted that the state was "ready to end religious arrogance", while pointing out at "something witnessed in Murshidabad a day before". Addressing a Gita recital at Brigade Parade Ground here, he said that the state is also ready to end corruption. Lakhs of devotees took part.

*POLITICS OF POLARISATION*

Gita chanting event at in Kolkata on Sunday | PTI

**Religious polarisation has become the dominant theme ahead of polls, overshadowing issues like graft and rape-murder of RG Kar doctor**

The political tension escalated after two major religious events in Murshidabad and Kolkata

In Murshidabad, suspended TMC MLA Humayun Kabir laid the foundation stone for a proposed 'Babri Masjid'

TMC, fearing shifts in the majority Hindu vote, suspended Kabir for making communal statements and engaging in anti-party activities ahead of the polls

A massive Bhagavad Gita recital at Kolkata's Brigade Parade Ground—attended by Governor CV Ananda Bose—added to the political friction

# U'khand infants face nutrition emergency: Study

NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

A new analysis of nearly half a million children across Uttarakhand has exposed a "nutrition emergency", revealing widespread child malnutrition that threatens the state's future economic potential. The study, which reviewed data from 4.83 lakh children aged up to 5 years across all 13 districts, shows that despite previous accolades, the state's nutritional health has severely deteriorated.

The findings, compiled by Dr Kirti Kumari, scientist at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tehri Garhwal, and brand ambassador for 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao', pinpoint four districts requiring immediate, targeted intervention based on data from 15,514 Anganwadi centres.

Almora has emerged as the epicentre of the crisis. Despite not being among the most remote Himalayan regions, Almora registered a wasting rate of 5.34%, affecting 949 children. More critically, its Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) rate stands at 1.94%—nearly double the state average of 0.72%. "The district administration must declare a nutrition emergency immediately," Kirti said. "Almora and Uttarkashi have crossed critical WHO thresholds."

The study also highlighted a hidden cost associated with massive infrastructure projects. Tehri Garhwal shows high levels of malnutrition, with 4.17% of children wasted and 25.55% stunted. Researchers suggest that this is tied to the displacement caused by the Tehri dam. "Tehri Garhwal's children bear the unseen burden of the Tehri dam," Kirti Kumari explained.

Displaced families, moved from fertile valleys to rocky, low-yield lands, have lost traditional livelihoods and support networks. Harish Negi, a displaced resident, said, "We had 2 acres of rich land. Now we have 0.5 acre of rock. How do we feed our children?" Kamla Bisht, an elderly resident in a resettlement colony, added, "Before the dam, we had milk from our cows, vegetables from our fields... Now we buy everything at double the price on rocky land that grows nothing. Three grandchildren are malnourished. Is this the price of development?"

The consequences extend beyond health. The analysis estimates that child malnutrition currently costs Uttarakhand ₹7,000 crore annually, equivalent to 2.5% of the state's Gross State Domestic Product. "Malnutrition costs more than Uttarakhand's health budget (₹4,500 crore)," Kirti said. "Every day of delay costs the state ₹19 crore. This money is simply lost, not invested anywhere."

Uttarkashi records high moderate acute malnutrition (3.80%), while Pithoragarh hovers close to WHO thresholds. Experts stress that action must be taken swiftly, as irreversible damage occurs after age two.

*THE SILENT CRISIS*

**4.83** lakh children (0–5 years) across all 13 districts of Uttarakhand were assessed using data from **15,514** Anganwadi centres

Almora emerged as the worst-hit district, with **5.34%** children wasted and **1.94%** suffering from Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM)

Tehri Garhwal saw 4.17% wasting & **25.55%** stunting, which has been linked to displacement and livelihood loss following the Tehri dam project

UTTARKASHI REPORTED **3.80%** MODERATE ACUTE MALNUTRITION, WHILE PITHORAGARH IS CLOSE TO THE WHO DANGER THRESHOLDS

# Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Haryana top grain wasting states in FCI storage godowns

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

PUNJAB has earned the unfortunate distinction of registering the maximum foodgrain losses within the Food Corporation of India (FCI) stocks in the past five years.

Considered as the food bowl of India with a total stock of 8,226.04 metric tonnes (MT), the state registered a staggering loss of 7,746 MT damage in 2023-24. Punjab was followed by Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Odisha, according to a reply by the Union Minister for state of consumer affairs, food and public distribution Nimuben Jayantibhai Bambhaniya in the Lok Sabha.

As per the data, the cumulative loss over five years in Punjab stood at 8,226.04 MT. Of this, the lowest was in 2020-21 at 25 MT; followed by 100 MT in 2021-22; 264 in 2022-23; 7,746 MT in 2023-24; and 91.04 in 2024-25.

**7.7K MT LOSS**

1. Punjab registered a staggering loss of 7,746 MT damage in 2023-24
2. It was followed by states like Tamil Nadu, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra and Odisha
3. As per the data, the cumulative loss over five years in Punjab stood at 8,226.04 MT.

With 3,001.39 MT foodgrains damaged in 2024-25, Tamil Nadu followed Punjab, which was only 7 MT in 2023-24 bringing its total to 3,008.39 MT. Haryana reported a significant 2,511-MT loss in 2023-24, and Uttar Pradesh registered 2,254.32 MT in 2024-25, taking its overall figure to 2,450.32 MT.

Meanwhile, Maharashtra recorded an accumulated 2,856.68 MT of damaged stock over five years, including highest 1,985.68 MT in 2024-25. Odisha reported 1,157 MT, mostly from 1,145 MT in 2020-21. However, while Punjab recorded the sharpest single-year damage, several other states reported sizeable losses.

Year-wise and commodity-wise assessments of damaged wheat and rice along with valuation were tabled. The highest recorded value of damaged food grains in the period was for rice in 2024-25, ₹13.06 crore, linked to 0.072 lakh tonnes of damaged stock against an off take of 259.55 lakh tonne, translating to a 0.028% loss.

For 2023-24, rice damage stood at 0.012 lakh tonnes, valued at ₹2.06 crore. Wheat losses were recorded as 0.01 lakh tonnes in 2020-21, 0.004 lakh tonnes in 2022-23, and 0.0067 lakh tonnes in 2024-25, with corresponding values of ₹0.64 crore, ₹0.46 crore, and ₹0.814 crore.

**TWO**
killed, 7 wounded in explosion in western Mexican state of Michoacan

**GLOBAL WEATHER**
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Beijing | 29 | 19 | SNY | Los Angeles | 32 | 19 | SNY |
| Colombo | 29 | 25 | TDS | Melbourne | 17 | 5 | LC |
| Dhaka | 33 | 25 | TDS | Moscow | 28 | 13 | SNY |
| Dubai | 44 | 28 | SNY | New York | 26 | 15 | SNY |
| Houston | 30 | 23 | TDS | Singapore | 32 | 25 | TDS |
| Istanbul | 33 | 21 | SNY | Toronto | 23 | 13 | SNY |
| London | 20 | 13 | SNY | Washington | 26 | 14 | SNY |

File photo of a Chinese J-15 fighter jet landing on the deck of the Liaoning aircraft carrier | AFP

# Japan says China locked radar on its fighter jets

**TOKYO**

CHINESE military aircraft locked radar onto Japanese fighter jets southeast of Okinawa's main island, Japan's defence ministry said Sunday.

China's navy said Tokyo's claim was "completely inconsistent with the facts" and told Japan to "immediately stop slandering and smearing".

Relations between Tokyo and Beijing have soured following remarks by new Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi suggesting that Tokyo could intervene militarily in any attack on Taiwan.

Chinese J-15 fighter jets twice locked radar on Japanese fighter jets on Saturday, without causing damage or injuries, Japan's defence ministry said.

Fighter jets use their radar for fire control to identify targets as well as for search and rescue operations.

Defence Minister Shinjiro Koizumi said the incident was "dangerous and extremely regrettable", adding that Japan had lodged "a strong protest" with China.

The two countries have a long-running territorial dispute over the Senkaku Islands, known as the Diaoyu in China.

The tiny, uninhabited islands lie between Okinawa and Taiwan, the much larger self-ruled island that China also claims.

Beijing summoned Tokyo's ambassador following Takaichi's comments last month.

Tokyo is deepening cooperation with US allies in the Asia-Pacific region, where several countries have territorial disputes with China.

Beijing, for instance, claims nearly all of the South China Sea, and has been asserting control more strongly in parts of the strategic waterway despite an international ruling that its claim has no legal basis.

The incident at the weekend came as Australia's Defence Minister Richard Marles was visiting Japan.

Marles said he was "deeply concerned by the actions of China in the last 24 hours", following a meeting with his Japanese counterpart. He said Canberra had "stabilised" its relationship with China by "acting in a clear, consistent, calm and sensible way". *AFP*

# Forces loyal to Benin president foil coup attempt, dozen soldiers arrested

**COTONOU**

BENIN'S government on Sunday said it had thwarted an attempted coup, after a group of soldiers announced on state television that they had ousted President Patrice Talon.

Military and security sources said that around a dozen soldiers were arrested, including those behind the foiled coup, by forces loyal to the president.

West Africa has experienced a number of coups in recent years, including in Benin's northern neighbours Niger and Burkina Faso, as well as Mali, Guinea and, most recently, Guinea-Bissau.

Talon, a 67-year-old former businessman dubbed the "cotton king of Cotonou", was due to hand over power in April next year after 10 years in office marked by solid economic growth.

A group of soldiers announcing on state television that they had ousted Benin's President, Patrice Talon | AFP

Early on Sunday, soldiers calling themselves the "Military Committee for Refoundation" (CMR), said on state television that they had met and decided that "Mr Patrice Talon is removed from office as president of the republic". But shortly after the announcement, a source close to Talon told AFP the president was safe and "a small group of people who only control the television".

"The regular army is regaining control. The city (Cotonou) and the country are completely secure," they said. "It's just a matter of time before everything returns to normal." On the streets of Cotonou early Sunday AFP correspondents reported hearing gunfire while soldiers blocked access to the presidential offices and to the state television building, although residents elsewhere went about their business. *AFP*

# Will move to second phase of Gaza ceasefire agreement soon: Israel PM

**JERUSALEM**

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu announced Sunday he expected the second phase of the US-sponsored ceasefire plan for Gaza to begin soon, and said he would meet Donald Trump this month.

The truce, in effect since October 10, has halted the war that began after Hamas's deadly attack on Israel.

Under the terms of the ceasefire that entered into force on October 10, Palestinian militants committed to releasing the remaining 47 living and dead captives seized on their October 7, 2023 attack.

All of the hostages have so far been released except for the body of an Israeli police officer.

The second stage of the Gaza ceasefire plan concerns disarming Hamas, establishing a transitional authority and deploying an international stabilisation force.

Speaking after meeting German Chancellor Friedrich Merz in Jerusalem, Netanyahu said: "We very shortly expect to move into the second phase, which is more difficult".

Netanyahu also said he would meet Trump later in December to discuss "opportunities for peace" in the region.

The meeting is expected to take place in Washington after the premier's office said Trump invited Netanyahu to the White House during a phone call on Monday.

The German leader, who took power in May this year, has repeatedly criticised Israel's relentless military campaign in the Gaza Strip, which has killed tens of thousands of Palestinians.

The war was sparked by the October 2023 attack by Hamas on Israel, which resulted in the deaths of 1,221 people, mostly civilians, according to an AFP tally based on official Israeli figures.

Merz urged the implementation of the plan's next steps, adding Germany was providing aid to Gaza and would contribute to the reconstruction efforts.

He flew into Israel the day before for his first trip to the country since traditionally solid ties between the two nations were shaken by the war. *AFP*

**EXPRESS READ**

### Dutch drug convict to be deported

A Dutch drug convict left a provincial Indonesian jail for transfer to the capital Jakarta on Sunday, a day before he and a death-row prisoner were due to be deported to the Netherlands. Drug smugglers Ali Tokman, 65, and Siegfried Mets, 74, have been languishing in Indonesian jails for years after falling foul of the country's strict narcotics laws. They will return home on humanitarian grounds on Monday, after a deal struck this week between Indonesia and the Dutch government. Tokman has been moved from Surabaya Prison in East Java province and will fly to Jakarta.

# Several people attacked with pepper spray at UK airport

**LONDON**

A man was arrested on suspicion of assault at the Heathrow Airport on Sunday after police were called to reports of a number of people being attacked with pepper spray, with the incident causing major travel disruptions.

The Metropolitan Police said the morning incident was not terrorism related and that the injuries to the victims were not thought to be 'life-threatening or life changing'.

The force believes the incident involved an argument between a group of people known to each other.

"A number of people were sprayed with what is believed to be a form of pepper spray by a group of men who then left the scene," the Met Police said in a statement.

"Armed response officers attended and arrested one man on suspicion of assault. He remains in custody and enquiries continue to trace further suspects," the statement said.

The incident caused major disruption to flights, with the airport advising passengers to allow extra time for their journeys.

"Our teams are currently responding to an incident involving the emergency services in the Terminal 3 multi-storey car park," Heathrow Airport said.

"Passengers are advised to allow extra time when travelling to the airport and to check with their airline for any queries," it added. Armed police rushed to the airport and London Ambulance Service also attended the scene as the victims were taken to hospital. *PTI*

---

**BEFORE THE DEBT RECOVERY TRIBUNAL -I AT BANGALORE**
**ORIGINAL APPLICATION No.617/2023**

**CANARA BANK,** Vasanthnagar Branch ...Applicant
**Versus**
**Smt. Shanthi S & Others** ...Defendants

**SUMMONS /NOTICE TO DEFENDANTS UNDER RULE 23(VIII) OF RECOVERY OF DEBTS AND BANKRUPTCY ACT 1993, BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION**

**To, 1. Smt. Shanthi S.** W/o. Lenin Jai Ganesh Aged about 42 years.
**2. Sri Lenin Jai Ganesh** S/o. Velumani, Aged about 48 years.
Both are R/at:No. 8, 5th Cross, Srirampuram, Bangalore - 560 021.
Also r/at No. 29A, Patty Chetty Street, Sundakamuthur, Coimbatore North, Tamilnadu - 641 010.
**3. Sharath Builders** Represented by its Managing Partners, Mr. Surath Jagan, No. 149, 1st Main, 2nd Cross, B.T.M. Muneshwara Layout, Kodichikkana Halli, Bommanahalli, Bangalore - 560 076.

**Whereas**, the Applicant has instituted an Application under Section 19 of the Recovery of Debt and Bankruptcy Act 1993 against you for recovery of a sum of **Rs.1,05,23,026/-** (Rupees One Crore Five Lakhs Twenty Three Thousand Twenty Six Only) mentioned therein together with current and future interest and other reliefs. The above defendant is therefore, hereby directed to appear before the Tribunal in person or through an advocate or through authorised agents in support of their defense within 30 days from the date of publication or on **08.01.2026 at 10.30 am** as to why reliefs prayed for should not be granted.

Take notice that in case of default, the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal, on this the **03.12.2025.**

Sd/- Registrar
Debts Recovery Tribunal-I, Bangalore
Advocate for Applicant Bank
Mrs. Malini Vinay

---

**FORM III-A**
**IN THE HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA AT BENGALURU**
**WRIT PETITION NO. 14853/2024 (SC/ST)**
**[Notice under Rule 13(a) proviso]**

**PETITIONER: Dr. H. M. Hanumantharaya** S/o Late Sri. Mudalagiriyappa, Aged About 66 Years, R/At Maruthi Nilaya, 1st Cross, K.R. Extension, Tumakuru. (By Sri./Smt: M.R.Ravindra, & Sharmila Gowda Advocates) -/VS/-
**RESPONDENT/S: 1. The Deputy Commissioner Bengaluru Urban District,** K.G. Road, Behind Kandaya Bhavan, Bengaluru-560 009 & Others
**TO: RESPONDENTS: 3. Smt. Venkatamma** W/O. Late Venkatappa, Aged About 76 Years, **4. Sri. Nanjappa** S/O. Late Venkatappa, Aged About 48 Years, R-3 and R-4 are Residing At Mariyappanapalya, Jnanabharathi Post, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru-23 **5. Sri. Dinesh Kumar** S/O. Jai Jai Ram, Major, R/At Devatha Market, Avenue Road, Bengaluru-560 002. **7. Smt. Muniyamma** W/O. Late Venkatappa, Major, R/At Chikka Kodigehalli. Yeshwanthapura Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk. -92. **8. Smt. Venkatamma** W/o. Late Venkatapathi, Major. **9. Sri. Nanjappa** S/O. Late Venkatapathi, Major. R-8 and R-9 are Residing At Mariyappanapalya. Jnanabharathi Post, Kengeri Hobli, Bengaluru - 23

**********

Whereas, a Writ Petition filed by the above named petitioner/s under Article 226 & 227 of the Constitution of India, as in the copy annexed hereunto, has been registered by this Court.
Notice is hereby given to you to appear in this court in person or through an Advocate duly instructed or through some one authorised by law to act for you in this case, on 14.01.2026. at 10.30 AM to show cause why rule nisi should not be issued.
If you fail so to appear on the said date or any subsequent date to which the matter may be posted as directed by the court, without any further notice, the petition will be dealt with, heard and decided on merits in your absence.
Issued under my hand and the seal of this court on 01.12.2025.

**By Order of the Court**
**ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**

---

## NOTICE OF SALE

Take Notice that Mrs. Aparna Bathija, aged 53 years W/o. Mr. Sunil Bathija, residing at No 7, 9th Main, RMV Extension, Sadashivanagar, Bangalore 560 080, intends to purchase the Schedule Property described below from M/s. Confident Projects (India), Pvt. Ltd., having registered address at No. 6, Langford Town, Hosur Road, Bangalore 560025.

M/s Confident Properties had entered into an Agreement for Sale dated 20/09/2011 in favour of one Mr. Rishi Khanna for sale of the Schedule Property. However, as the sale registration was not effected, Mr. Rishi Khanna now intends to assign all his rights under the Agreement for Sale to Mrs. Aparna Bathija, and M/s Confident Projects has agreed to confirm the assignment. The original Agreement of Sale dated 20/09/2011 has been misplaced and has not been traced yet. If traced, it is hereby notified to immediately bring the same to the attention of the undersigned immediately.

Any person(s) having interest or claim over the Schedule Property should send their claim in writing to the undersigned along with documentary proof, within 07 days from the date of this notice, failing which all claims shall be deemed to be waived.

**SCHEDULE PROPERTY**

All that piece and parcel of Plot bearing No. 117 measuring about 526.67 sq. mtrs (approx. 5669 sq. ft.) situated in the Villa Community known as "Champion Reef Golf County" or "Zion Hills", developed over an extent of 139 Acres 13 Guntas in Sy. Nos. 5, 6, 27, 36, 44, 13, 14, 15, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 25, 26 and 33 of Vaggaiahnadinne Village, Sy. Nos. 253, 356, 357, and 358 of Hudukula Village and Sy. Nos. 161, 162, 163, 217 and 218 of Siddanahally Village, Kasaba Hobli, Bangarpet Taluk, Kolar District, and which Plot is bounded on the:

East by : Plot No. 118;
West by : Plot No. 116;
North by : Road; and
South by : Road.

**Neeraj Sastry** Date:08/12/25
**Advocate,**
M/s TLaw Chambers, No. A-304
St. Patrick's Complex, Brigade Road
Bangalore – 560 025
Email: neeraj@tlawchambers.in

---

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
भारत सरकार का उपक्रम — A Government of India Undertaking
सिंडिकेट Syndicate

## DEMAND NOTICE

**Coonoor Branch (1247) : Post Box No.9, Door No.29, Mount Road, Coonoor - 643 102, Mob No : 94890 43448, Mail : cb1247@canarabank.com**

To, **Borrower : Mrs. Padmini Priyadharshini,** W/o.Rajesh. K, 102, BM Splendor Park, Borewell Road, Victorian View Layout, White Field, Banglore, Karnataka - 560 066, **Co-Borrower : Mr.Rajesh. K,** S/o.M. Karunanithi, 102, BM Splendor Park, Borewell Road, Victorian View Layout, White Field, Banglore, Karnataka - 560 066.
Dear Sir,

**Sub : Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002.**

**Mrs. Padmini Priyadharshini,** W/o.Rajesh. K and **Mr.Rajesh. K,** S/o.M. Karunanithi **(Borrowers)** have availed following loans / credit facilities from our **Canara Bank, Coonoor Branch** from time to time.

| Limit - Fund Based | Loan amount | Liability as on 25.11.2025 | Rate of Interest |
|---|---|---|---|
| Home Loan Plus - 1247629000002 | Rs.15,00,000/- | Rs.8,63,130/- | 11.90% + Penal interest 2% |

The above said loan/credit facilities are duly secured by way of mortgage of the assets more specifically described in the schedule hereunder, by virtue of the relevant documents executed by you in our favour. Since you had failed to discharge your liabilities as per the terms and conditions stipulated, the Bank has classified the debt as **NPA on 23.11.2025.** Hence, we hereby issue this notice to you under Section 13(2) of the subject Act calling upon you to discharge the entire liability of **Rs.8,63,130/- (Rupees Eight Lakhs Sixty Three Thousand and One Hundred and Thirty only)** with accrued and up-to-date interest and other expenses, within sixty days from the date of the notice, failing which we shall exercise all or any of the rights under Section 13(4) of the subject Act.
Further, you are hereby restrained from dealing with any of the secured assets mentioned in the schedule in any manner whatsoever, without our prior consent. This is without prejudice to any other rights available to us under the subject Act and/or any other law in force.
Your attention is invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the SARFAESI Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.
The demand notice had also been issued to you by Registered Post Ack due to your last known address available in the Branch record.

**SCHEDULE – B (DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE ASSET)**

**Name of Title Holder : Mr.K. Rajesh and Mrs. Padmini Priyadharshini :** Registration District : The Nilgiris, Registration Sub District : Coonoor, Village : Adigaratty - II, Old Survey Number : 774/7B & 1443/1, R.S.Number : 1385/2 Part, Patta Number : 777, Extent : 0.28 Acre of land. **Boundaries :** North : Property belonging to Mr. Kumar & remaining land belonging to the vendor herein in Survey No.1385/2, South : Property belonging to Mr. Bharath, East : Property belonging to Mr. Kumar & Mr. Bharath, West : Land in Survey No.1385/1 of Adigaratty Villagel.

**Date : 26.11.2025** **Authorised Officer**
**Place : Coonoor** **Canara Bank**

---

## ENVIRONMENTAL CLEARANCE

The State Level Environment Impact Assessment Authority, Karnataka (Constituted by MoEFCC, Government of India) has accorded the Environmental Clearance for the Proposed Residential Apartment Building at Sy. No. 78/1 of Bettenahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, and Bengaluru Rural District by M/s. Ameliorate Realtors Private Limited Bangalore vide No. SEIAA 250 CON 2025 Dated. 02.12.2025. The Copy of the clearance letter may also be seen on the website of MoEF&CC/SEIAA, Karnataka at http://parivesh.nic.in. http://envrionmentclearance.nic.in. http://seiaa.karnataka.gov.in
This Public notice is issued in compliance with the condition laid down in the above mentioned Environmental Clearance.

---

**RAIL WHEEL FACTORY**
Yelahanka, BANGALORE - 560 064
Website: www.rwf.indianrailways.gov.in

**TENDER NOTICE No. RWF/S/P1/013/2025-26, dated 04.12.2025**

On behalf of the President of India, Principal Chief Materials Manager invites electronic Tenders from Interested Vendors for supply of the following items on the Indian Railways E-Portal **www.ireps.gov.in.** The Tender documents and the Corrigenda to the Tenders, if any, will be available on the Portal only.

| Sl.# | Tender No. | Due Date | Short Description | Qty. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | P1252965 | 15.12.25 | SE Modular Drill Body of dia 25.1 mm | 38 Sets |
| 2 | P1251615 | 22.12.25 | Veegum granules as per RWF specification | 2050 Kgs |
| 3 | P1252313 | 22.12.25 | Face Milling Cutters a) LH-2 Sets b) RH-2 Sets, as per RWF Specification | |
| 4 | P1252098A | 22.12.25 | Glaze for pouring tube as per WAP Specification | 2400 Ltrs |
| 5 | P1252998 | 05.01.26 | Fused silica powder as per RWF Specification (Developmental Tender) | 1500 Kgs |

**Principal Chief Materials Manager**

---

**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**
**OFFICE OF THE ADDITIONAL CHIEF ENGINEER**
**BALANGIR IRRIGATION CIRCLE, BALANGIR, E-mail : sebalangir@gmail.com**
**"e-procurement Notice"**

A-1061 **BID Identification No: ACE, BOIC- 06/2025-26** **Procurement Details**

| Pkg. No. | Name of Works | Approx. Tender Cost in lakh | Class of Contractor | Bid Security/ EMD- (online)- | Cost of tender document- | Period of Completion |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1 | Construction of Inspection Bunglow (I.B) At-Padampur, under Ong Dam Division, Padampur for the financial year 2025-26. | Rs. 146.63 Lakh (excluding G.S.T) | 'A' & 'B' Class | Rs. 1,46,700/- | Rs. 10,000/- | 12 (Twelve) Calendar Months |
| 2 | Construction of Office Cum Rest Shed at village Darlipali under Ong Dam Division, Padampur for the financial year 2025-26. | Rs. 105.72 Lakh (excluding G.S.T) | 'A' & 'B' Class | Rs. 1,05,800/- | Rs. 10,000/- | 12 (Twelve) Calendar Months |
| 3 | Construction of (G+1) style D-type Quarter in the Irrigation Colony for use by Staff of Ong Dam Division, Padampur for the financial year 2025-26. | Rs. 163.09 Lakh (excluding G.S.T) | 'A' & 'B' Class | Rs. 1,63,100/- | Rs. 10,000/- | 12 (Twelve) Calendar Months |

| Procurement Officer | Bid Identification No. | Availability of tender on-line for bidding: From | To | Date of Seeking tender clarification | Date & Time of opening of tender: Technical Bid | Financial Bid | Place of opening |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Addl. Chief Engineer, Balangir Irrigation Circle, Balangir | ACE, BOIC -06/2025-26 | Dt. 11.12.2025 at 10.00 A.M. | Dt. 02.01.2026 up to 5.30 P.M. | Dt. 12.12.2025 to Dt. 20.12.2025 At Office during office hours. (In working days) | Dt. 03.01.2026 at 11.00 A.M. | To be intimated after evaluation of Technical Bid | Office of Addl. Chief Engineer, Balangir Irrigation Circle, Balangir |

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal **"https://www.tendersodisha.gov.in"**

**OIPR- 32347/11/0009/2526** **Sd/- Additional Chief Engineer, Balangir Irrigation Circle, Balangir**

---

**BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD**

## INVITATION FOR TENDER
**(Only through KPP-Portal)**

BWSSB invites tenders from eligible contractors for the following works:

**Office of the Chief Engineer (West), 6th Floor, Kaveri Bhavan K.G.Road, Bengaluru - 560 009**

| Sl. No. | Division | IFT Number | Amount put to tender: EMD (in Rs.) | Last Date & Time for Submission of Tender | Date & Time for Opening of Tender |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | North West-2 | BWSSB/EENW-2/TO/PB/ 4101/2025-26, Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs.50,49,404/- Rs.1,01,000/- | 18.12.2025 upto 4:00 PM | 19.12.2025 after 4:30 PM |
| 2 | | | Rs.30,93,822/- Rs.61,900/- | 18.12.2025 upto 4:00 PM | 19.12.2025 after 4:30 PM |
| 3 | | | Rs.9,02,405/- Rs.22,600/- | 18.12.2025 upto 4:00 PM | 19.12.2025 after 4:30 PM |

Sd/- **Executive Engineer (North-West-2)**

**Office of the Chief Engineer (WWM-East), 6th Floor, Kaveri Bhavan K.G.Road, Bengaluru - 560 009**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 4 | WWM-T-Valley | BWSSB/EE(WWM)TV/PB/ 1766/2025-26, Date: 05.12.2025 | Rs. 67.01 lakh Rs.1.34 lakh | 15.12.2025 upto 4:00 PM | 16.12.2025 at 4:10 PM |
| 5 | | BWSSB/EE(WWM)TV/PB/1767/ 2025-26, Date: 05.12.2025 (Reserved for SC Category) | Rs.82.27 lakhs Rs.0.82 lakh | 15.12.2025 upto 4:00 PM | 16.12.2025 at 4:10 PM |

Sd/- **Executive Engineer (WWM-T-Valley)**

**Office of the Chief Engineer (East), 6th Floor, Kaveri Bhavan K.G.Road, Bengaluru - 560 009**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | East-1 | BWSSB/EE(East)-1/PB/ 3719/2025-26, Date: 05.12.2025 (Reserved for ST category) | Rs. 48.88,900/- Rs. 48,900/- | 22.12.2025 upto 4:00 PM | 24.12.2025 after 5:00 PM |
| 7 | | BWSSB/EE(East)-1/PB/ 3719/2025-26, Date: 05.12.2025 (Reserved for SC category) | Rs.25,38,043/- Rs.25,400/- | 22.12.2025 upto 4:00 PM | 24.12.2025 after 5:00 PM |
| 8 | | BWSSB/EE(East)-1/PB/ 3719/2025-26, Date: 05.12.2025 (Reserved for SC category) | Rs.75,58,946/- Rs.75,600/- | 22.12.2025 upto 4:00 PM | 24.12.2025 after 5:00 PM |
| 9 | | BWSSB/EE(East)-1/PB/ 3719/2025-26, Date: 05.12.2025 (Reserved for SC category) | Rs.63,70,958/- Rs.63,710/- | 22.12.2025 upto 4:00 PM | 24.12.2025 after 5:00 PM |

Sd/- **Executive Engineer (East-1)**

The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the above signed office during the working hours. DIPR/CP/4272/SA/2025-26

---

**DIRECTORATE OF AVIATION**
**GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**
**NOTICE**

**File No TRN-AV-GEN0083-2024 - 15142 /T,** **Date 05.12.2025**

**J-04:** The Directorate of Aviation recruitment notice published vide Recruitment Notice No. OIPR -38001/11/0029/2526 on 09.05.2025 with respect to recruitment of Director of Aviation, Deputy Director-Operation and Protocol, Assistant Director-Business development & Flight Operation and Senior Executive-MIS is hereby cancelled. It is further clarified that the recruitment for the posts of Accountable Executive, Terminal Manager, and Safety Manager, as advertised in the same notice, shall remain unaffected and will not be cancelled.

All applications submitted for the post of Director of Aviation, Deputy Director - Operation and Protocol, Assistant Director - Business development & Flight Operation and Senior Executive-MIS as per Recruitment Notice No. OIPR -38001/11/0029/2526 shall be not be considered.

* Candidates are advised to visit the official website of the Commerce & Transport Department (https://ct.odisha.gov.in/) for detailed information regarding any future vacancies. Any queries may be submitted through the email address provided below.

**ADDRESS: -**
**Directorate of Aviation, Government of Odisha, Old Terminal Building, B.P.I. Airport, Bhubaneswar, Pin- 751020, E-mail: - orissa_aviation@yahoo ..... transcivilaviation@gmail.com**

**Sd/- Officer on Special Duty**
**OIPR- 38001/11/0047/2526** **Directorate of Aviation, Bhubaneswar**

---

THE ALL-NEW
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS APP
SCAN THE QR CODE TO DOWNLOAD THE APP
Google Play | App Store
STAY UP-TO-DATE WITH THE LATEST NEWS

All the news.
In just a click.
Log to www.newindianexpress.com
THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS

# Flyers' rights in case of flight cancellations

Passenger Charter ensures aid, refreshments, refunds; airlines must notify cancellations at least 2 weeks ahead

**ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU** @ New Delhi

IN the chaos caused by IndiGo flight cancellations that left a large number of passengers stranded at airports, it remains unclear how the airline has compensated them for the inconvenience.

While the carrier has stated that refund and luggage processes are fully operational for both direct and indirect bookings, many passengers have reported communication gaps and difficulties they encountered during the week.

If you were an IndiGo passenger, it is important to understand the airline's compensation policy and your rights under India's aviation regulations. Air passengers are protected under the Union Ministry of Civil Aviation's Passenger Charter which ensures compensation, refreshments and refunds in cases of flight delays, cancellations and baggage issues.

### Flight delays

For delays after timely check-in, airlines are required to provide free meals and refreshments if the wait exceeds two hours for short-haul flights (up to 2.5 hours block time), three hours for medium-haul (up to five hours), or four hours for longer flights. Domestic flights delayed over six hours require prior notice beyond 24 hours of the original departure, with options for an alternate flight within six hours or a full refund. Delays notified over 24 hours in advance but exceeding 24 hours (or six hours for late-night flights between 20:00 and 03:00 hours) entitle flyers to free hotel accommodation.

IndiGo in its policy says that in case of delays of more than 2 hours or preponement of the flight by more than 1 hour, their customers are entitled for a full refund or re-booking onto an alternative IndiGo flight at no additional cost subject to availability. Amid the crisis, IndiGo said that it has waived all cancellation/re-scheduling fees for travel from December 5 to 15, 2025.

### Flight cancellations

Airlines must notify cancellations at least two weeks ahead, offering alternative flights or refunds. For notices less than two weeks but up to 24 hours before departure, passengers can choose alternative travel or full refunds. Short-notice cancellations or missed connections trigger compensation alongside refunds: ₹5,000 for flights up to one hour block time, ₹7,500 for up to two hours and ₹10,000 for longer hours. If you have already reported for the original flight and while you wait for the alternative flight, the airline must give free meals and refreshments. Airlines are also required to cover transfer fees if rerouting to alternative airports.

As per norms, overbooking leading to denied boarding requires airlines to seek volunteers first. If no alternative flight departs within one hour, compensation is 200% of one-way basic fare plus fuel charge (max ₹10,000) for flights within 24 hours or 400% (max ₹20,000) beyond or full refund with 400% compensation if declined. Diversions over two hours waiting time mandate disembarkation with refreshments and for wait time under two hours, the airline should provide water, tea, or coffee.

### Baggage rights

Airlines are liable for checked baggage lost, delayed or damaged onboard or in their charge, limited to ₹20,000 per passenger domestically and 1,131 SDR internationally; unchecked baggage claims require proof of airline fault.

IN CONVERSATION

**KAMAL BALI**
*President & Managing Director (MD) of Volvo Group India*

# 'Govt should play a larger role in growth of EV ecosystem'

VOLVO Group recently signed an MoU with Tata Motors to build an ecosystem for zero-emission trucking. In an interaction with **Pushpita Dey**, **Kamal Bali**, President & Managing Director (MD) of Volvo Group India, speaks about how coordinated action across fuel supply, infrastructure, and cost of ownership will scale the heavy-vehicle (HDV) green transition in India. **Excerpts**:

**What are the key joint targets set for the next 2–5 years, and how will this collaboration boost the green transition ecosystem in India for HD vehicles?**

First of all, it is an important development that our two companies — significant players in the global commercial vehicle space — are coming together to help build an ecosystem for zero-emission trucking. That is the need of the hour. Many actors are involved in developing such an ecosystem. It's not just about creating a vehicle that runs on clean fuel. Even if we build that vehicle, the ecosystem doesn't get fully developed.

There are multiple other actors — producers of non-fossil fuels, fuel-dispensing stations, the supply chain, and of course the total cost of ownership (TCO) that must make business sense. The transport buyer, too, must find value in adopting these solutions. So, while TCO is very important, many things need to come together. There have to be catalysts like us who take the lead — as part of the LeadIT initiative — and we believe this is a strong ambition to pursue.

The EV and green transition in HD vehicles are taking more time than expected because coordinated action is required. If every actor in the value chain reaches even 80% readiness, the success rate will still be only around 40%. So rather than focusing solely on targets, this is a collaborative journey.

**On manufacturing side, we are building our fourth international hub in India, with ₹2,000 crore corpus over the next three to four years. Additionally, more components will be sourced from India value-chain development**

**India's EV ecosystem is still evolving. What key policy moves and industry initiatives are needed now to accelerate green mobility adoption in the heavy-vehicle segment?**

The Centre began with the demand side — improving TCO through incentives on clean and green vehicles. That was a good kick-start. But we now need a more holistic approach, including the supply side, to develop the broader ecosystem.

The Centre should play a larger role in ecosystem development rather than offering incentives only to customers. It must invest across the chain. For example, the hydrogen (H2-ICE trucks) pilots — involving truck manufacturers like us and hydrogen suppliers — where hydrogen corridors are being developed to test vehicles. These are the right steps: investments that build the ecosystem and ensure every piece of the puzzle is addressed. Otherwise, the model will not work.

**With China challenging India's EV incentives at the WTO, do you see this dispute affecting India's green transition in the vehicle sector?**

Not at all. Each country makes decisions based on its own circumstances. Every country has incentives to promote particular technologies. India will take decisions that are best for her.

Also, zero-emission trucking should remain technology-agnostic — be it battery-electric vehicles (BEVs), hydrogen internal combustion (H2-ICE), or fuel-cell electric vehicles (FCEVs). There can be multiple pathways to zero-emission freight. LCVs and MCVs may largely adopt BEVs, while HDVs may move more towards hydrogen fuel-based solutions and other non-fossil alternatives.

**Where does Volvo place India in its global supply chain, and how will this evolve in the coming years?**

India is a major and growing focus area for our Group. Our largest technology centre outside Gothenburg is in India. Our largest digital and IT centre outside Gothenburg is in India. Our largest accounting services centre outside Gothenburg is also in India. For services, India is already second only to our headquarters.

MONEY-WISE

# WHAT IS A 'DIGITAL ARREST' SCAM?

FINANCIAL ADVICE

**PV SUBRAMANYAM**
*writes at www.subramoney.com and has authored the best seller 'Retire Rich - Invest ₹40 a day'*

DIGITAL arrest is a cyber fraud where scammers impersonate law enforcement officials, such as police, CBI (Central Bureau of Investigation), ED (Enforcement Directorate), or customs officers, to extort money from victims.

The term "digital arrest" refers to the scammers' tactic of placing victims under virtual surveillance via video calls, claiming they are restricted from leaving or contacting others until they comply with demands. This creates psychological pressure, making victims believe they are under official custody without physical arrest. These scams have surged in India since early 2023, evolving from earlier courier frauds, and have led to losses exceeding ₹2,580 crore nationwide since 2022.

In 2024 alone, over 120,000 complaints were reported, with total losses around ₹1,935 crore. The operations often originate from countries like Myanmar, Laos, and Cambodia.

Scammers exploit fear, authority, and urgency to manipulate victims, often targeting elderly or tech-savvy individuals who might have some financial assets. Typical steps:

- **Initial Contact and Accusation:** The scam begins with a phone call, WhatsApp message, or video call from someone claiming to be from a courier service or a government agency. They inform the victim that an "illegal parcel" in their name has been intercepted at an airport or customs, containing drugs, contraband, or documents linked to money laundering or terrorism, or worse Identity theft. This hooks the victim with panic.
- **Escalation to "Authorities":** The caller "transfers" the victim to a fake senior official via video call on WhatsApp. The scammer appears in uniform, uses official-looking backgrounds, and shows forged documents like arrest warrants, FIRs (First Information Reports), or court orders with fake signatures to build credibility.
- **Imposition of "Digital Arrest":** The victim is told they are under "digital arrest," meaning they must remain on the video call continuously (sometimes for hours or days), not disconnect, and avoid contacting family, banks, or real police. Scammers claim this is a legal process to "verify" the victim's innocence, and any non-compliance will lead to immediate physical arrest or asset seizure.
- **Financial Extortion:** Under duress, the victim is pressured to transfer money to "safe" or "surveillance" bank accounts to prove their funds are legitimate or to pay fines/bribes to avoid prosecution. Scammers may demand screen sharing to monitor bank apps, enabling them to guide transfers or steal credentials. Payments are often in multiple tranches, using UPI, bank transfers, or even cryptocurrency.
- **Prolonged Surveillance and Follow-Up:** To maximize extraction, scammers keep the call going, fabricating more accusations or involving "higher authorities."

Victims may realise the scam only after significant losses, leading to trauma or, in extreme cases, suicide.

MONEY MATTERS

# FINANCIAL INCLUSION AND YOUR MONEY

FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE

**RAJAS KELKAR**
*(The author is editor-in-chief at www.moneyminute.in)*

IT is that time of the year when you can review your finances. The year gone by was led by factors around a challenging global environment disrupted by trade disputes and wars. Amidst that, India's growth is like an oasis. While foreigners may not fancy Indian equities for now, they still hold a sizeable chunk of India's market capitalisation. The most prominent supporters of the India story are now Indian investors. They own a fifth of Indian shares, directly and indirectly (through mutual funds). The story of Indian savers becoming investors is set to enter a new chapter over the next five years.

The Reserve Bank of India last week dropped a new financial inclusion roadmap in a document titled 'National Strategy for Financial Inclusion 2025-30'. It is not just for bankers but also for the future of your money, savings, borrowings and investments.

### Banking standards

The RBI study shows that India has moved the needle significantly on banking services. From 'everyone needs a bank account' to 'everyone deserves good service'. With the introduction of Jan Dhan accounts and the support of Aadhaar and mobile connectivity, it is a finish line. However, the focus is now on service quality. The idea is to ensure that you use your bank account effectively for your needs. The survey finds that the last-mile banking is reliably done through better-trained business correspondents. Onboarding is faster than before, thanks to the 'know your customer' video process. Digital payment experiences are getting better, the survey finds. In the future, your everyday money tasks should get easier and more consistent, no matter where you live.

There is also a strong push for the financial inclusion of women. The survey finds that only 15% of business correspondents are women. The RBI aims to double that number over the next five years. It is encouraging companies across mutual funds, insurance, non-banking finance, and banking to create tailored products for women and vulnerable households. If women have better financial access, families have better financial security. The survey calls it 'inclusion with teeth.'

### Digital Payments

The RBI study puts an ambitious target of one billion digital payment users by 2029. To improve your confidence in the digital payments system, the RBI is working on efficient complaint systems that can be filed with a single tap on your mobile device. It aims to accelerate the blocking of fraudulent transactions through a national fraud-intelligence system. RBI is insisting that app makers create a clean, scam-resistant user interface by avoiding dark patterns.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

The central bank is also looking to expand the scope of UPI Lite, UPI Lite X, and programmable central bank digital currency (e-rupee) over the next five years.

### Financial literacy

Over the next five years, RBI will create financial literacy programmes based on behaviour and personal learning, the study said. There will be separate modules for cohorts such as students, seniors, migrants, gig workers, and small and medium enterprises. The learning will be largely scenario-based and practical. There will be a decisive shift in the literacy programmes from explaining what financial products are to how to use them. The study highlights the importance of inculcating good money habits with an emphasis on education on scams, digital hygiene and debt management.

### Safety nets

Another critical aspect of the RBI's next five-year plan is strengthening safety nets, including insurance, pensions, and emergency credit. The RBI study highlights that building your financial resilience will be the focus. Your ability to handle shocks such as job loss, medical emergencies, or accidents would be considered. RBI plans make enrolment and claim processes easier for insurance schemes. It plans to push for affordable pension plans, such as the Atal Pension Yojana. It is also working towards a system to create an emergency overdraft facility for basic bank accounts.

# Netflix's Warner Bros. deal: Multiplexes flag concerns

**ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU** @ New Delhi

THE Multiplex Association of India (MAI) on Sunday raised strong objections to the proposed acquisition of Warner Bros. Discovery by streaming major Netflix, warning that the deal could significantly hurt India's theatrical ecosystem.

India's cinema business relies on a steady pipeline of international and local releases to draw audiences, MAI said, adding that the acquisition of a major Hollywood studio by a dominant streaming platform — which has "historically deprioritised" theatrical releases — threatens both competition and the broader film economy.

"The Indian theatrical market thrives on choice, scale and

cultural diversity. Warner Bros. has been a key partner to Indian cinemas, contributing consistently to our release calendar with global and local titles," MAI President Kamal Gianchandani said.

He argued that cinemas in India function as economic engines and cultural hubs, supporting millions of livelihoods across production, distribution, exhibition and related services.

"Netflix has consistently made it clear through its limited and highly restrictive approach to theatrical releases that it does not believe in the cinema-first model," Gianchandani said. If the acquisition goes ahead, he warned of a "meaningful reduction in high-quality content" for cinemas, along with shortened or even eliminated theatrical windows.

Such a shift would impact revenues, reduce consumer choice, and weaken the entire film value chain, he added, calling for regulatory scrutiny of the consolidation.

# EU penalises X $140 mn over content breach

**ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU** @ New Delhi

ELON Musk's social media company X was fined 120 million euros ($140 million) by EU tech regulators on Friday for breaching online content rules, the first sanction under landmark legislation that once again drew criticism from the US government.

While X did not respond to an emailed request for comment, Musk replied "Bullshit" under a European Commission post about the fine.

He also reposted several messages criticising the decision and wrote: "Freedom of speech is the bedrock democracy. The only way to know what you are voting for."

X's rival TikTok staved off a penalty with concessions.

# India's net overseas debt inflow rises to $76.8 billion in 2024: World Bank

**ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU** @ New Delhi

SPURRED by inclusion in global bond indexes such as the JP Morgan Government Bond Index-Emerging Markets (mid-2024) and the FTSE Russell Emerging Markets Government Bond Index (2025), India's net debt inflows almost doubled to $76.8 billion in 2024, according to World Bank's latest report on international debt. Other reasons that contributed to this jump are Lower borrowing costs, strong investor appetite, and record levels of lending from financial institutions to Indian private entities.

India's external debt stock rose by 10.6% in 2024 to $716.5 billion. The report further shows that 77.3% of its long-term external debt is owed to private lenders, primarily bondholders and commercial banks. This marks a significant shift from the concessional and multilateral borrowing that still dominates in other South Asian IDA-eligible countries.

### External debt grows

External debt stock rises by 10.6% in 2024 to $716.5 billion. The report shows 77.3% of its long-term external debt is owed to private lenders, mainly bondholders and commercial banks

It further noted that India's government and private sector significantly increased bond issuance in 2024, taking advantage of favorable market conditions. This helped the country fund infrastructure projects, support fiscal needs, and refinance existing obligations — though at higher interest rates than in the pre-2020 era.

While India's debt-to-GNI ratio remains moderate at 18.6% — and its debt-to-exports ratio at 82.1% — the picture is less rosy for some neighbours. Bhutan, Maldives, and Sri Lanka all have significantly higher debt burdens relative to the size of their economies. Sri Lanka saw its debt service-to-exports ratio jump to 23.7% in 2024 as it cleared arrears.

## WC Final: Simranpreet clinches gold, silver for Aishwary

Simranpreet Kaur Brar, still a junior, won India a second gold medal at the ISSF World Cup Final in Doha, equalling the finals' junior World Record score of 41 in the women's 25m pistol event. Aishwary Pratap Singh Tomar, meanwhile, bagged silver in the men's 50m rifle 3 positions. Anish Bhanwala, men's rapid fire pistol, also won a silver.

# Germany rout India, enter final

Seven-time world champs trounce hosts 5-1; "Had plans but couldn't execute well," Sreejesh

**SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN**
@Chennai

IN a tournament like the Under-21 World Cup, it's important to retain context. Sure, it's still an important event but how do you treat the competition? Do you use age-group teams as a sort of feeder team to the senior set-up? Or do you prioritise winning with the squad over player development, taking a more holistic, long-term approach. For the Indian Class of 2025, there was only going to be one approach. Win. As soon as PR Sreejesh was announced as coach of this team, the hockey stakeholders in this country ensured this team got everything in terms of resources (financial, exposure trips, camps and so on).

Given those were the circumstances, the leadership at Hockey India (HI) as well as the team's support staff backed this side to make an impression both at this tournament as well as give players to Craig Fulton's senior side ahead of a massive 2026 (the senior World Cup as well as the Asian Games which will act as the Olympic qualifier for 2028 in LA). Behind the scenes, there were also a lot of back-channel lobbying as Fulton was denied access to some of the younger players he wanted. The South African wasn't too pleased but he didn't want to pick up a fuss. On the evidence of what transpired in their semifinal against Germany on Sunday, there ought to be a root and branch review of the entire junior programme. Germany bullied India for the entirety of the match with relief coming only when the hooter cut through the night sky after a harrowing experience for the latest bunch of Indian players tasked with the expectation of delivering global hockey gold.

Defending champions Germany had it easy against the hosts on Sunday | PTI

Instead, what happened was in a tournament expected to be between two sets of inexperienced but talented players, it was reduced to a contest between men vs. boys.

There's no shame in losing a global semifinal but if the express purpose was to win the tournament at the cost of player development, then it's only fair that questions ought to be asked of the management. Also, it's not like the Boys in Blue were unlucky in defeat.

They were manhandled from gun to tape as the Europeans showcased not only their superior physical skills but also their greater technical skills on a night even the famous 'knowledgeable Chennai crowd' were largely silent, save for the occasional scream. They finally found their voice when the hosts scored their first goal but by then, the electronic scoreboard reflected the sad reality of the denouement in progress: "IND 1-5 GER," it read. With nine minutes remaining, the reigning champions managed the rest of the match expertly.

But the match was over long before the fourth quarter commenced. Germany, seven-time global champions at this level, were ferocious as they employed a full press as soon as the match began. The Indians took some time to recalibrate but by then, they had already got more than a foothold. They matched the press with an intensity that proved to be too much for the hosts.

Sreejesh's wards tried to go aerial to evade the press but Germany were quicker to react to opportunities all over the ground. They made frequent coast-to-coast runs down their right and got their first two goals through this avenue.

By the time the half-time had come about, Germany were already out of sight with three goals to the good. And the underlying metrics made for bad viewing (11 circle entries to India's 4). "We just didn't play well," Sreejesh said in the mixed zone after the match. "We had our specific plans for Germany but we didn't manage to execute those plans properly." One of those plans revolved around shutting the visitors' movement in the middle of the park. "We are of course motivated to win bronze," he said. "There's no use crying over this result. We will go again in the bronze medal match (against Argentina)."

FIH HOCKEY MEN'S JUNIOR WORLD CUP TAMIL NADU 2025

**RESULTS**

**Semifinals:** Spain 2-1 Argentina; India 1-5 Germany

**Classification (5/8):** Belgium 3-2 France; New Zealand 3-6 Netherlands

## Argentina coach lashes out at referee

**SWAROOP SWAMINATHAN**
@Chennai

ARGENTINA'S fraught relationship with the men's junior World Cup continued on Sunday as their coach launched a staggering attack at the officials after seeing his young wards go down 1-2 in a tense, scrappy first semifinal.

"We were f***** by the referee," Juan Gilardi said in the mixed zone post the match. The incident in question came deep into the fourth quarter with the sides deadlocked at 1-1. That's when Spain's Bruno Avila drilled a long ball from the inside right channel well outside the striking circle. Avila was looking for a deflection and found one through Albert Serrahima before it went over the line. However, Argentina were convinced that the goal shouldn't stand on two occasions as the ball was a) dangerous and, failing that, b) the deflection was the courtesy of an Argentine foot. If it was a foot, it would have been a penalty corner to Spain.

After countless replays — the crowd at the stadium fell silent as the video umpire took an age to arrive at a decision — the official ruled there would be no advice possible so the on-field decision stood. On air, the commentators were slightly taken aback by the decision as they suggested the ball was dangerous and the deflection may well have been as a result of a foot and not a Spanish stick. With two seconds remaining, Argentina thought they had a penalty corner of their own to level but it was overturned on yet another controversial video referral.

**Full story: newindianexpress.com**

# Focus shifts to T20Is & return of Hardik before World Cup

**GOMESH S** @Chennai

EVEN as Indian cricket is still smiling about the spectacular ODI series win against South Africa in Visakhapatnam, the caravan has already been moved a little further along the East coast to Cuttack.

This time, however, it will be a different team under a different captain, Suryakumar Yadav, playing the T20 format against the same opponents. The context of the series takes precedence as it is the penultimate T20I series India will play going into the home World Cup in February. Which is why, these five matches between the 2024 T20 World Cup finalists take significance.

For India have as many as ten matches to figure out their best possible combination while assessing and monitoring the fitness of some of the key players. At the top of that list would be Hardik Pandya who is making a comeback to the Indian team after the Asia Cup in September.

Pandya had been out of action due to a left quadricep injury since and has made his comeback in domestic cricket, playing for Baroda in the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy. In his first game back, he smashed an unbeaten 77 off 42 balls to take Baroda home against Punjab in the chase of 223. He bowled eight overs in both matches combined and arrived in Cuttack early to train ahead of the first T20I against South Africa.

On Sunday, as the team travelled from Visakhapatnam to Cuttack, Pandya seemed to be the lone player to train at the OCA Stadium. Him remaining fit for the next three months becomes all the more crucial for India because of the balance he brings to the table. Four overs of change-up in middle-overs and death with both Jasprit Bumrah and Arshdeep Singh in the XI and the depth in the middle-order with his explosive hitting.

His is a place India are still struggling to fill with Nitish Kumar Reddy nowhere near a finished all-rounder and Shivam Dube's bowling not as impactful as Pandya's. Which is why, handling Pandya with velvet gloves while making the most of his abilities will be essential for India to have a chance at retaining their T20 title, especially at home.

The road towards that begins in Cuttack where the stadium is in need for a massive upgrade. Once a historic venue, the venue has lost its significance, hosting white-ball matches on rotation. The last time it hosted an international game was the second ODI between India and England where 35 minutes of play was affected due to floodlight malfunction. OCA president Pankaj Lochan Mohanty even reiterated at the time that the venue needs to be renovated. Come Tuesday, the officials and the stakeholders will hope that the focus remains on cricket rather than the venue.

And on the field, Pandya will be one who carries the limelight at the core of it all. Of course, it remains to be seen whether vice-captain Shubman Gill, coming back from neck injury, takes the field in the very first match of the series.

SPORTING SPECTACLE

## SQUASH PLAYERS GEARED UP FOR WORLD AFFAIR

**CHANDRA PRABHU** @Chennai

AS the Express Avenue mall gears up for the Christmas celebrations later this month, the Atrium and three makeshift galleries, will be the centre of attention for the next few days (starting December 9), as the Squash World Cup is set to begin here on Tuesday. This will also be the second consecutive edition since the re-launch of the event in 2023. In addition to the mall, the premises of the Indian Squash Academy (ISA) will be used for practice, as well as play-off matches. The Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI) will be hosting the event with the help of the Tamil Nadu government and the Union ministry of Sports and Youth affairs.

Lately, in a bid that could help the sport grow, squash tournaments in India have been conducted near monuments or a place of spectacle. SRFI Secretary General Cyrus Poncha revealed that the Shore Temple in Mahabalipuram was considered as a venue but because of the weather it was put on hold. "We certainly were considering other options. But given the timing of our event which is December, we definitely did not want to take a chance and play outdoor. We saw what happened last week. If it was one week later then we would have all been very disappointed to do it," he added. It is to be noted that none of the players from the 2023-World Cup winning team will return in this edition. Fayrouz Aboulkheir, Kenzy Ayman were amongst the stars as they beat Malaysia in the 2023 final.

"They have already submitted their names of their athletes and due to the hectic schedule some players are not participating," he said. Otherwise, Hong Kong and Malaysia are few teams Poncha felt are strong. "Hong Kong has got their best players all ranked top 50 in the world. So they are strong. Then, you have got the Malaysian team, bringing top players. So, a good bunch of players are coming in for this tournament," he said.

A glass court for the event at Express Avenue Mall | EXPRESS

**Full story: newindianexpress.com**

Australia's Michael Neser celebrates with teammates on Sunday | AFP

## Neser nails England to ground, Oz take 2-0 lead

**AGENCIES** @Brisbane

STEVE Smith took a brilliant reflex catch to swing momentum, got into a heated exchange with Jofra Archer and then slogged the winning runs Sunday as Australia beat England again to take a 2-0 Ashes lead.

Set a target of 65 for victory in the second test after dismissing England for 241 in the second innings, Australia raced to an eight-wicket win late on Day 4 as storms brewed in and around the stadium.

Archer was bowling around 150 kph (93 mph) under the lights and it only fired up Smith. "The adrenaline was pumping at the end of the end, yeah. Jofra was bowling pretty quick," Smith said. "It was a huge win. Great to go 2-nil up." Day 4 was a tale of two captains. England skipper Stokes curbed his attacking instincts, dispensing with Bazball and pragmatically setting about reviving England's Ashes prospects. England had resumed Sunday at 134-6, and took an hour and 36 minutes — 18.2 overs — to erase the first-innings deficit.

The Australian attack bowled a tight line and length and mixed it up with some short-pitch deliveries in an attempt to entice the usually aggressive England batters to have a go. Stokes (50) and Will Jacks (41) resisted the temptation for the entire first session, knowing that a wicket would expose the tailenders. The seventh-wicket pair put on a 96-run stand to get England to the brink of the night session, but that ended when Smith — Australia's stand-in captain — took a stunning one-hander diving to his left at slip off Michael Neser's bowling to dismiss Jacks. That was the momentum changer. The subsequent slide happened quickly, with England losing its last four wickets for 17 runs and Neser finishing wit h a five-wicket haul.

**Brief scores:** England 334 & 241 in 75.2 ovs (Stokes 50, Jacks 41; Neser 5/42) **lost to** Australia 511 & 69/2 in 10 ovs (Smith 23 n.o; Atkinson 2/37).

EXPRESS READ

### FC Goa win Super Cup, book spot in CL 2

MARGAO: FC Goa won the AIFF Super Cup tournament after they prevailed over East Bengal FC in sudden-death shootout here on Sunday, the title triumph also giving them a spot in next season's AFC Champions League 2. The win helped Manolo Marquez's team to become the first side to defend the Super Cup title and win it for a record-extending third time.

### Maiden Super 100 title for shuttler Saraswat

GUWAHATI: India's Sanskar Saraswat clinched his maiden Super 100 title after eking out a three-game win over Mithun Manjunath in the men's singles final of the Guwahati Masters. The 19-year-old from Jodhpur won 21-11, 17-21, 21-13. However, Tanvi Sharma registered a runner-up finish in women's singles after losing 18-21, 18-21 to Tung Ciou-Tong of Chinese Taipei in the finals.

### Kirsten is Namibia team consultant

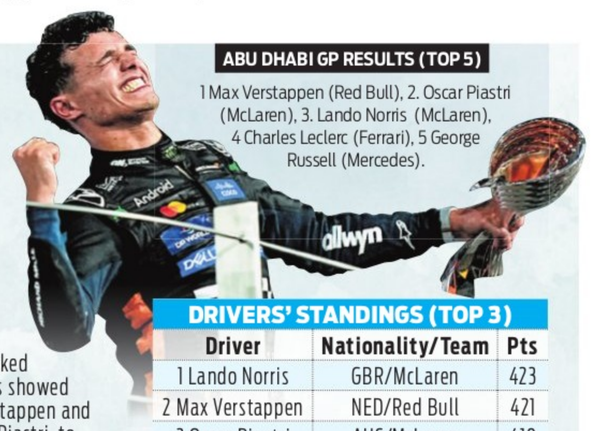
NEW DELHI: World Cup winning former India head coach Gary Kirsten has been appointed consultant for Namibia's men's national teams and will work alongside head coach Craig Williams in the build-up to next year's T20 World Cup. The global showpiece is scheduled to be held in India and Sri Lanka in February-March 2026.

### Rutter helps Brighton draw vs West Ham

LONDON: Brighton forward Georginio Rutter stopped West Ham climbing out of the Premier League relegation zone with a last-gasp equaliser in a dramatic 1-1 draw on Sunday. Jarrod Bowen's second half strike put West Ham in front but Rutter grabbed Brighton's leveller in stoppage-time to leave West Ham stuck in 18th place.

## *Tears of joy for new F1 champ Norris*

**Lando Norris claims his maiden Formula One world drivers' title in Abu Dhabi on Sunday, ending Max Verstappen's four-year reign. A look..**



**ABU DHABI GP RESULTS (TOP 5)**

1 Max Verstappen (Red Bull), 2. Oscar Piastri (McLaren), 3. Lando Norris (McLaren), 4 Charles Leclerc (Ferrari), 5 George Russell (Mercedes).

**DRIVERS' STANDINGS (TOP 3)**

| Driver | Nationality/Team | Pts |
|---|---|---|
| 1 Lando Norris | GBR/McLaren | 423 |
| 2 Max Verstappen | NED/Red Bull | 421 |
| 3 Oscar Piastri | AUS/McLaren | 410 |

**NERVES OF STEEL**

It was a tense battle as three drivers were in contention for the title going into the final race. Ferrari's Charles Leclerc was hot on his heels and looked like he could potentially disrupt his plans. But Norris showed steely resolve to finish third behind race winner Verstappen and the other title challenger, McLaren teammate Oscar Piastri, to claim the crown by two points. Norris, in tears on the team radio, said: "Thanks so much. I love you mum, I love you dad."

**LIVING UP TO PROMISE**

Norris's ascent to the F1 throne is no surprise to the man who first spotted his talent as a kid racing go-carts at the Clay Pigeon Raceway in Dorchester, south-west England – a world away from the glitz of Monaco where Norris nailed a record pole lap to win on the streets of the Principality in May.

**I haven't cried in a while, I didn't think I would cry but I did. I want to thank my mum, my dad, they've supported me since the beginning. It feels amazing, I know now what Max feels like a little bit. I want to congratulate both Max and Oscar, I've enjoyed it, it's been a long year!** —Lando Norris

**1** Sunday's season-closer was the first time the title was decided by a contest involving more than two drivers since a four-way scrap at the final race in Abu Dhabi in 2010.

**7** Norris had a total of 7 race wins this season.

**11** Norris becomes Britain's 11th F1 champion.

Mumbai Smashers celebrate their title triumph on Sunday | IPBL

## Mumbai complete miracle run, capture IPBL crown

**ENS/AGENCIES** @New Delhi

MUMBAI Smashers charted a miracle run, going from sixth to champions with a win over Hyderabad Royals in the Grand Finale of the Indian Pickleball League. Mumbai capped their turnaround with a 5-1 win over Hyderabad at the KD Jadhav Indoor Hall here on Sunday.

Hyderabad and Mumbai arrived at the summit through vastly different routes. Hyderabad opened the league strongly, recovered from a mid-phase wobble, and closed the group stage in second. Mumbai, winless until the last league tie, scripted a remarkable fairytale, beating Gurgaon to trigger a three-way Play-In, winning back-to-back Grand Rallies, then toppling Lucknow in the Eliminator and Chennai in Qualifier 2. Carrying the bounce of successive wins, they started stronger on the day, with the ruthless Quang Duong adding Tejas Gulati to his list of victims with a 15-4 win. **Final:** Mumbai Smashers 5-1 Hyderabad Royals.

FRESH START

## *Prasad new KSCA president*

**ENS** @Chennai

THE verdict is out. Former India pacer Venkatesh Prasad was elected to the president's chair of the Karnataka State Cricket Association (KSCA) polls late on Sunday. Four out of five key posts have been won by those in "Team Game Changers."

"First and foremost, this is a victory for the sport of cricket. Secondly, this is a victory for all the members who wanted a change, all the people who wanted international cricket to come back to the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium. This is a victory for all stakeholders - the cricket fans," Prasad told reporters after becoming president. Prasad edged past veteran sports administrator KN Shanth Kumar by a margin of 749-558 with 1307 members voting in the election. Former state player Sujith Somsundar will be Prasad's deputy as vice president and Santosh Menon will return to his post as KSCA secretary. Jairam had resigned, along with A Shankar, after the stampede at the Chinnaswamy Stadium in June during the Royal Challengers Bengaluru IPL trophy celebrations.

Somasundar won ahead of D Vinod Shivappa 719-588 while Menon got better of ES Jairam by 675-632. Somasundar is coming to KSCA after serving as BCCI head of education at the Centre of Excellence of the last few years.BN Madhukar will assume the post of treasurer after winning 736-571 ahead of MS Vinay. BK Ravi, from 'Team Brijesh' won the post of joint secretary 669-638 ahead of AV Shashidhara.

Meanwhile, former women's cricketer Kalpana Venkatachar (764) and former Karnataka wicketkeeper batter Avinash Vaidya (691), who contested from Prasad's panel, were elected as members from the Bangalore Zone along with Aashish Amarlall (703).

Venkatesh Prasad (3rd from R) with other elected officials of the KSCA | EXPRESS

**OFFICE BEARERS: President:** Venkatesh Prasad (Game Changers); **Vice President:** Sujith Somasundar (Game Changers); **Secretary:** Santosh Menon (Game Changers); **Treasurer:** BN Madhukar (Game Changers); **Joint Secretary:** BK Ravi (Team Brijesh).

UPCOMING EXAMINATIONS

| CMA INTER/ FINAL | MAT 2025 (PBT) | SNAP 2025 TEST 2 |
|---|---|---|
| Date: Dec 10 to 17 | Date: Dec 13 | Date: Dec 14 |



## WHY FAILURE IS THE NEW CLASSROOM

Early failures feel like dead ends, but for many founders they are the first serious teacher. Each stumble strips away illusions and forces cleaner decisions the next time.

**Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw, Biocon**

Turned away by banks and unable to hire staff, she began Biocon with minimal equipment that often broke down. Those early technical and financial setbacks forced her to master the science hands-on and build processes robust enough to scale.

**Kalpana Saroj, Kamani Tubes**

She took over Kamani Tubes when it was collapsing under debt and legal trouble. Reviving a failing company taught her how to negotiate, restructure, and rebuild from the ground up, turning a near-dead enterprise into a profitable one.

**Kunal Shah, CRED**

His first cashback venture struggled to scale, but it revealed how incentives actually shape user behaviour. Those lessons became the backbone of FreeCharge's growth and later informed CRED's entire model of habit-building and reward psychology.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

# WHY THE NEXT GENERATION ISN'T WAITING FOR A JOB TO BEGIN A CAREER

A growing shift on campuses is pushing young graduates to treat entrepreneurship as a first career, not a later gamble

TO examine how students today are thinking about placements, risk, and early entrepreneurship, we spoke to ***Shekar Nair, Coach, Co-founder and Managing Partner at Upekkha***, an early stage accelerator and fund for Indian founders building AI software. His vantage point places him in constant conversation with first-time founders, including those deciding between a stable job and a serious idea. His observations offer clarity on what motivates young builders, the signals that matter, and the realities behind the choices they face.

**● What changes have you seen in first-time founders today compared to ten years ago?**

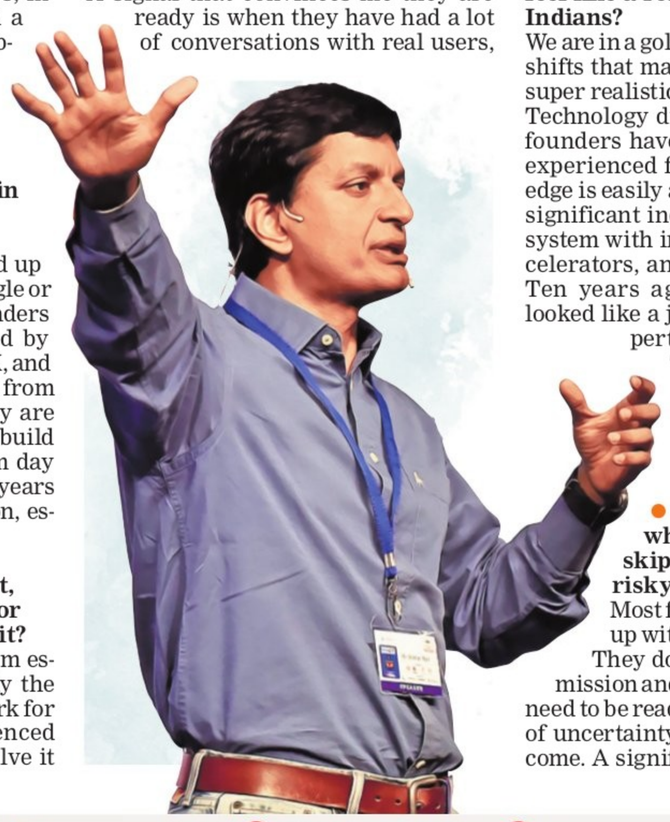
A decade ago, most people started up after a few years at Infosys or Google or maybe after an MBA. Today, founders are younger, bolder, and shaped by hackathons, YouTube, LinkedIn, X, and role models. Many come straight from tier 1 and tier 2 colleges and they are asking sharper questions: "Can I build something globally relevant from day one?" or "Why should I wait five years to be ready?" Technology diffusion, especially AI, has levelled the field.

**● Among the founders you meet, how many decline placements or study abroad? Why do they do it?**

Quite a few have walked away from established company offers. Mostly the reasons are: "I did not want to work for someone else," or "I had experienced this problem and I know I can solve it for a large market." The ones who are most likely to succeed are the ones who are addressing a problem they felt personally or saw repeatedly during an internship or research project.

**● When a recent graduate wants to skip placements and start up, what tells you they are ready, and what tells you it is just excitement?**

A signal that convinces me they are ready is when they have had a lot of conversations with real users, and can tell clearly what problem they are solving and for whom. What sounds to me like excitement more than readiness: "I have an awesome idea that I plan to build." Ready founders are talking to users. Excited ones are talking to investors or friends.



**● What shifts in the startup ecosystem have made entrepreneurship feel like a realistic option for young Indians?**

We are in a golden window of ecosystem shifts that make entrepreneurship feel super realistic for young Indians today. Technology diffusion means first-time founders have as much knowledge as experienced founders because knowledge is easily accessible. There is also a significant increase in the capital ecosystem with incubators, early stage accelerators, and venture capitalists. Ten years ago, this ecosystem looked like a jungle that only experts could navigate. Today, it is a maze with visible entries and exits, with guides and resources along the way.

**● In your experience, what early mistakes make skipping a placement more risky than students expect?**

Most founders mistake starting up with succeeding in a startup. They do not realise that this is a mission and a marathon and that you need to be ready to suffer through years of uncertainty to build a successful outcome. A significant percentage of start-ups do not get institutional funding. I see sharp graduates who have skipped their campus offers, super enthusiastic about their idea, without any customer validation, burning their savings building a fancy product and struggling without product market fit or traction.

**● How should a final-year student decide between taking a job and pursuing a startup idea?**

I would ask them: Is your startup solving a real pain for someone today, or is it a cool idea in search of a problem? Have you validated it with any real users? Do you have a 12-month survival plan, financially, if things do not work? I would tell them, your idea may be strong, but if your conviction is not stronger and validated by users, and if you do not have co-founders who are equally committed to struggle through several years of uncertainties, take the job, save capital, and come back when you are ready to go all in.

### *Busting big myths about entrepreneurs*

MOST YOUNG FOUNDERS STRUGGLE NOT BECAUSE OF IDEAS, BUT BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE THE WRONG THINGS ABOUT HOW START-UPS WORK

| Myth | Reality |
|---|---|
| Entrepreneurs are born, not made! | Most founders learn by trying small things, failing, and building skills over time. |
| You need a huge, original idea before you start! | Many strong businesses begin as simple fixes to everyday problems. |
| Only rich or well-connected people can build start-ups! | Networks, grants, incubators, and digital tools now support a wider range of founders. |
| Funding is the first step! | The first step is proof that someone cares enough to use or pay for what you built. |
| Entrepreneurs work alone!. | Most successful founders build strong teams, mentors, and peer circles early. |

### *How an idea becomes a venture*

1. **SPOT A PROBLEM** — Notice a real, specific pain point in student life, work, or community.
2. **SHAPE A SIMPLE IDEA** — Turn that problem into a clear solution that can be tested quickly.
3. **TEST WITH REAL USERS** — Show early users a basic version, collect honest feedback, and watch behaviour.
4. **REFINE AND FOCUS** — Drop nice-to-have features, double down on what users actually value.
5. **FIND SUPPORT** — Seek mentors, campus cells, incubators, or peers who can plug gaps in skills.
6. **FORMALISE THE VENTURE** — Choose a basic structure, set up accounts, track money, and write things down.
7. **GROW, PIVOT, OR STOP** — If it works, scale carefully. If it does not, pivot the idea or shut it and carry the learning to the next attempt.

## College to CEO: How campuses are building start-ups in India

start up

**Karthikeya S examines how today's campuses are evolving beyond books, classes and exams, offering structures that help students test ideas, find mentors and take their first entrepreneurial steps. Many now enter college aiming to create start-ups alongside placements, using support to turn ideas into businesses.**

### IDEA TESTING

MANY colleges and universities, including the IITs, IIMs, ISB Hyderabad, SRM University Chennai and Christ University Bengaluru, host hackathons, pitching competitions and entrepreneurship events, both intra- and inter-campus. These help students validate ideas quickly, gain feedback, and connect with peers and industry professionals who can refine their approach.

### INCUBATION & MENTORSHIP

MANY colleges have dedicated E-cells and incubation centres. Institutions such as IIT Bombay's SINE, IIM Bangalore's NSRCEL, T-Hub in Hyderabad, STPI Centres and Union government backed Atal Incubation Centres (AICs) offer structured mentorship, technical resources and access to experienced founders. Alumni entrepreneurs, guest lectures and industry visits help students build practical knowledge and find long-term mentors.

### FUNDING PATHWAYS

SOME colleges offer seed grants through the Ministry of Education's IIC framework or the Startup India initiative. Alumni networks can open doors to angel investors and micro-grants. State governments like Kerala, Gujarat, Karnataka and Telangana provide innovation vouchers, soft loans and early-stage support, creating multiple pathways for early funding.

The difference between a promising idea and a functional venture often comes down to five skills that students can build long before they launch anything

### ESSENTIAL SKILLS!

**ADAPTABILITY**
Comfort with changing plans when new information or feedback arrives.

**RESILIENCE**
Ability to handle rejection, slow progress, or failure without quitting the game.

**RISK SENSE**
Judging which risks are worth taking and which can break you if they go wrong.

**EXECUTION DISCIPLINE**
Translating ideas into small daily actions, even when motivation dips.

**COMMUNICATION**
Explaining the idea clearly to users, teammates, mentors, and investors.

### SUCCESS STORY

IN 2020, two Mumbai teens, Aadit Palicha and Kaivalya Vohra, were stuck indoors during the pandemic and annoyed by slow deliveries. They began by building small ventures like GoPool and KiranaKart, which never quite found the right users. Instead of quitting, they kept the learning and rebuilt the idea from scratch as Zepto in 2021. The promise was simple: groceries delivered fast, with reliability that college students and young professionals could trust. What started as a scrappy, youth-led experiment is now one of India's fastest-growing start-ups, valued at around 7 billion dollars and preparing for a public listing. The scale may look dramatic, but the path was built on small tests, abandoned prototypes, and the decision to try again when earlier ideas stalled.

DID YOU KNOW?

### *What Makes Entrepreneurs Think Differently*

Recent studies show patterns in how young founders make decisions and learn under uncertainty

**COGNITIVE FLEXIBILITY AND ENTREPRENEURIAL CREATIVITY**
**— YU, ZHAO & HOU (2023), FRONTIERS IN PSYCHOLOGY**
**Students who score high on cognitive flexibility show stronger entrepreneurial creativity because they notice opportunities faster and trust themselves to act on them.**

**ENTREPRENEURIAL EDUCATION, CREATIVITY, AND INTENTION IN COLLEGE STUDENTS**
**— LI, CAO ET AL. (2023), FRONTIERS IN PSYCHOLOGY**
Entrepreneurial intention tends to rise when students receive structured entrepreneurial and creativity education, partly because it increases self-efficacy, which is one of the key psychological mechanisms linking education to start-up intention.

**UNIVERSITY SUPPORT, SELF-EFFICACY, AND ENTREPRENEURIAL INTENTION**
**— GALVÃO ET AL. (2024), SPRINGER**
**Students who perceive strong educational support from their university, such as relevant courses and guided activities, show higher entrepreneurial self-efficacy and intention than those who do not report such support.**

**SHIFTING MINDSETS IN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS**
**— XANTHOPOULOU ET AL. (2024), MDPI**
Education and peers repeatedly appear as major factors in students' entrepreneurial intention, suggesting that courses and entrepreneurial role models can play a decisive role in whether students see starting a venture as a real option.

## TWO JOURNEYS, ONE DECISION: START UP!

**Amrita Sabat, Sabat Exports Pvt Ltd**

"I was working as an corporate analyst until I quit due to personal reasons. When I decided to go back to making money, I decided to further my family's existing business of selling spices by including handloom, arts, and crafts that Odisha is known for. I started my enterprise in 2015 with a mission to promote and source my products directly from the artisans who produce them. I am up against garment companies that mass-produce their products, so every day was a hustle. We were also surprised by the extent of fake artisanal products in the market. A supplier once provided us with products that appeared to be Odisha art-and-craft works, but were made in China. But we've become better at spotting the fakes!"

**Md Yusuf, Brew Munk**

"I was a regular engineering student focused on placements until I started organising and participating in entrepreneurship and business competitions. I had a few unsuccessful start-up attempts, and then joined an immersive Entrepreneurship programme at the Indian School of Business where I started working on my current venture — Brew Munk. It's been a surprisingly lonely journey, drifting apart from my batchmates, who were focused on getting great placements. However, I am at an age where I can afford to make mistakes. I will be left behind my peers, but I can catch up to them. Also, it's a myth that start-ups don't offer work-life balance, and that you have to keep "hustling". I always made sure to finish my work — be it college coursework and assignments, or start-up related work — within hours of starting."

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS City

# Bengaluru Express

READSHAREFOLLOW
newindianexpress.com
Mail us: bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com
08.12.2025
MONDAY

**DAY'S DIARY**

## *Ex-Beatle murdered*

On this day, in 1980, John Lennon, former member of The Beatles, was gunned down by Mark David Chapman in New York

**BACKSTORY**

Mark began identifying with a novel's disillusioned main character. He created a list of people he wanted to kill, including Elizabeth Taylor, and Lennon among others

**THE INTENT**

He believed that the murder would make him famous, transforming him into "something other than a nobody"

**CHARGES**

Mark was charged with second-degree murder and is serving a 20-years-to-life sentence at the Green Haven Correctional Facility

*The best of B'luru curated by CE*

PG 2

# 'FEAR IS ALWAYS IN THE ROOM'

Comedian-actor Vir Das on walking into his first literature fest, being an 'outsider' and finding home, and everything in between

ANJALI RAM

AS **Vir Das** enters the Bangalore Literature Festival (BLF) stage with the kind of disarming candour he is known for and breaks the ice instantly, it dissolves the line between a performer and the audience. He jokes about everything, yet keeps it intense and subtle at the same time and looks around the crowd, half-amused, half-awed, as if he has entered a room he isn't sure he deserves to be in, a theme that runs through his new memoir, *The Outsider: A Memoir for Misfits*. "It's my first literature festival ever, I'm arguably the stupidest person here," he quips.

With the recently released book in his hand, he notes that writing has quietly shaped him as a mirror of his life. "Writing a book forced me to confront my life," he shares. Stand-ups, Das says, are always moving – there's neither time for celebration nor introspection, but writing the book changed that. "When you write a book about your life, you to confront it. I realised what a backlog of things I hadn't dealt with in years."

When asked how BLF compares to other events, he shrugs. "Never been to one before. I'm hoping the others are this good. It's different from a stand-up show. Everybody's sober here," Das laughs, adding that what stays with him is the people: "I got to spend five seconds with so many people today and just be awed by how intelligent and passionate they are. I don't know if I'll ever have a massive audience. But I think I have a massively passionate audience, and that's a far greater privilege."

The signing process at the event, he says, filled him with unexpected gratitude. "It made me 300 per cent more grateful for the journey I had, for the people I've met, for the cumulative effect they've had on me." That, he believes, is the book's core: remembering the people who carried him. Yet he hopes the readers carry a moment of what he felt while writing the memoir, which is that 'it's okay to feel lost'. "It's okay not to belong, or to be an outcast. All of that is an identity you can hold," he points out.

During the session, he went deeper into this idea, as he stated, "I've been a boarding school kid in Delhi Public School, a DPS kid in Galesburg, Illinois, an Indian accent in American drama school, a westernised accent in Indian movies... I've never fully belonged." The memoir grew from this space – the sense of gatecrashing every world he entered. "You're sitting at a party thinking, 'How the hell did I get invited here?' But I think most people feel that way. They just don't say it," he jokes, noting how success didn't smooth the edges.

You ask him about courage, especially in a world where his jokes have invited FIRs, abuse and even threats, he says, "I'm always scared. Ninety per cent of it is pretending you're brave. Fear is in the room; you acknowledge it, just don't judge it." He also laughs about being told to "keep quiet and do gym jokes," but stand-up, he insists, relies on authenticity. "If you're apolitical in your 40s, what kind of life have you had?," he asks.

Yet amidst the hullabaloo, the role that feels closest to him today is directing. " I just made my first movie, *Happy Patel* (bankrolled by Aamir Khan Productions, teaser of which was released recently), and I just fell in love with directing. It's indeed the accumulation of everything I've learned – writing, performance, storytelling," he says, winding up the chat with a wide smile.

PICS: SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

## A Lit Fest

- With the 14th edition of the Bangalore Literature Festival taking place at Freedom Park – cherished for its open atmosphere – the space proved to be more than just any other. It offered a sense of breathing room right in the heart of the city, allowing visitors to immerse themselves in its history and stories. The Central Jail, back in the day, the space came alive with session venues being named watchtower, open cell, left barrack and right barrack.
- Despite travel disruptions due to flight cancellations, many speakers made it to the Freedom Park. The much-anticipated session with *English-Vinglish* filmmaker Gauri Shinde was cancelled.
- While the space was spruced up for the event, it faced challenges a few issues in accommodating the crowds, especially with limited washroom facilities.
- The festival's first day saw a higher footfall, outpacing the second day, as literature enthusiasts and bibliophiles flocked to sessions, especially those of Vir Das, Banu Mushtaq and Sudha Murty.
- Reminiscing the legacy of the late SL Bhyrappa, the session 'Remembering SL Bhyrappa' by Krishnamurthy Hanuru left audiences reflecting on his legendary literary contributions and who he was beyond that.

*Sadly, many Indians do not know their mother tongue well. Many of the youngsters are reading Hindi in the Roman script, not in the original Devanagari script*

Amish, author, *The Chola Tigers -Avengers of Somnath*

*I have written 25 books for children because many parents, grandparents and teachers are busy, and children need stories with good values*

Sudha Murty, author, *The Circle of Life*

*There's an assumption that movies are the ultimate prize. Even I believed that. But it's no longer the focus. The entertainment industry is fun but stressful*

Chetan Bhagat, author, *12 Years*

## PREVIEW

Watch out for a photofeature of the Pride Parade in *CE* this week

BORN WITH 62 PER CENT HEARING IMPAIRMENT, KOMAL WAGHMARE'S GRIT AND DETERMINATION BAGGED HER INDIVIDUAL AND TEAM BRONZE MEDALS

# Winning shots

ABHIJEET KABAD

KOMAL Waghmare's (35) journey has been full of challenges, but her grit and determination has helped her all along, including in her recent podium finish at the Deaflympics 2025, held in Tokyo, Japan, between Nov 15 and 26, where she bagged individual and team bronze medals.

Waghmare's coach Suma Shirur, who represented Karnataka, is India's first woman to reach an Olympic shooting final. She recalls her student's journey as being 'beautiful – grooming her from an individual to an athlete.' "It has been intense, especially the last year. The first part was preparing for trials of the Deaflympics, and second was about going to the competition with a winning mindset," she says.

Waghmare was born with 62 per cent hearing impairment, for which she underwent surgery in 2019. "Initially, we didn't realise the degree of hearing loss. But over time, we had a better understanding of how to get a point across with her. With Komal being a bright girl, this was not much of an issue. Her understanding of sports and ability to grasp was fantastic," Shirur says.

Waghmare went through different phases in preparation for the global tournament. In the last phase, it was about dealing with the pressure, crowd and focus. Shirur says, "Komal thrives under pressure. She enjoys the crowd watching her. She called me the night before the competition, feeling the pressure. But she was confident. That was heartening. From a coach's perspective, it made me feel relaxed."

Komal Waghmare in action

Shirur was impressed by Waghmare's ability to bring her attention to the demands of the present moment, which helped her get through. "She showcased this ability during the last three shots of the mixed team event."

The journey to the top was far from easy. But Waghmare didn't give up. "During the one-on-one conversations before the competition, I saw a shift in her mindset. From there on, she worked on believing in herself."

The preparation for the Deaflymics started last year. Shirur had to make basic changes to Waghmare's stance."Her openness was a signal that she wants to get to the global stage. That's an important quality for an athlete," Shirur says.

Talking about the focus that Waghmare inculcated, Shirur says, "The main work is on the lane itself – developing a sound single shot routine. A routine that she could repeat consistently was important. Another main focus was helping her bring attention to single shots. Because in spotlight shooting, it is easy to start focusing on the scores. The moment one starts focussing on the scores, but as an athlete one must have the ability to focus on the process."

In terms of the facilities available for shooting, Shirur points out that India has come a long way over the years. "The most important thing one needs for success is die-hard commitment from athletes, skillful coaches and parental support."

Shirur signs off with a message for budding athletes, "No matter what we are born with, sport has an enormous strength in converting losses into gains. Believe in yourself and put in the effort, success is there for all to have."

## CITY READ

### Architectural ideas take centre stage in city

TOTO India held its latest Architect Talk in city, bringing together architects, designers and industry professionals for an evening focused on design, culture and innovation. Japanese architect Akihisa Hirata delivered the keynote on 'Water's Edge of the Human', sharing insights from key works, including Tree-ness House Tokyo, Art Museum & Library, Ota Gumma 2017 and Global Bowl Tokyo 2021. TOTO India plans to expand retail presence, product innovation and engagement with the design community across major cities.

### Foundation to host 9th annual dance fest

Adyasha Foundation, led by Odissi dancer Sarita Mishra, will present ShishiraChhanda 2025, the 9th edition of its annual dance festival, on December 20 at 6pm at JSS Auditorium, Jayanagar. The festival will feature a Bharatanatyam solo by Padmini Sirish, an Odissi solo by Indu Vijay, and the highlight Odissi production Madhaveti, depicting the sacred journey of Neelamadhava to Jagannatha. Special invitees include Veena Murthy Vijay, Shobha Shashikumar and Murali Mohan Kalvakalva.

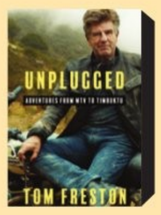
PLAN SMART WITH THIS GROCERY RULE

PG 3

## BOOK NOOK

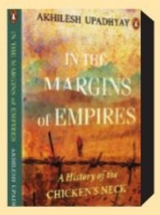
### Shared Bonds, Strategic Interests
**by Ranjit Rae**

Shared Bonds, Strategic Interests: India-Nepal Relations in a Turbulent World is a thoughtful guide for those seeking to understand the challenges and opportunities arising from the close, yet complex and occasionally fraught relationship between India and Nepal.




### Unplugged
**by Tom Freston**

A freewheeling and riveting memoir from Tom Freston that takes us behind the scenes of his global adventures – from hitchhiking around the world, to becoming CEO of MTV Networks and Viacom, later returning to work in Africa and Afghanistan.




### In the Margins of Empires
**by Akhilesh Upadhyay**

From the forgotten fringes of the Himalaya comes a sweeping narrative that brings the borderlands to life – In the Margins of Empires uncovers the voices, journeys, and geopolitics shaping a region seen only through distant eyes.

### Dawn of the Firebird
**by Sarah Mughal Rana**

Rana blends political insight, jinn magic, and sand-swept warfare as a hidden princess infiltrates her enemy's empire to reclaim a stolen throne.

**WHAT YOU LOOKING ART?**

Visitors check out Carriers, a solo show of artworks by Kodanda Rao Teppala, displayed at Gallery Sumukha in Wilson Garden | KEVIN NASHON

## QUICKFIX

# CORN CHEESE SANDWICH

**INGREDIENTS**

- **Corn:** 20 g
- **Bread, Cheese slices:** 2 each

**METHOD**

- Boil the corn in the water for 4 to 8 minutes.
- Take two slices of bread.
- Place corn and cheese between the slices.
- Toast the sandwich until it turns golden and the cheese melts.

Contributed by **Rachel Jyothi,** Bengaluru

## DR VIVEK ARORA

*The expert is a senior veterinarian, Crown Vet, Delhi.*

**My Persian cat (2) has suddenly started refusing her kibble. She just licks the gravy from her wet food and leaves the solids behind. She's also drooling a little, and her breath smells weird lately. Could this be a dental issue or something more serious like a gum infection?**

Your cat's drooling, bad breath, and refusal to eat kibble likely indicate a dental or oral problem such as gingivitis, tooth decay, or an abscess. When there's pain in mouth, cats often lick only the gravy from food and avoid chewing. It's important to have her examined by a veterinarian promptly, as untreated infections can cause severe discomfort and spread deeper. Treatment may include dental cleaning, antibiotics, or extraction if needed. Meanwhile, offer soft, easily swallowed meals to keep her nourished and hydrated. Do not force dry food. Early dental care usually restores normal eating and comfort.

ASK AN XPERT

## FITBIT

# SIMPLE SWAPS, BIG IMPACT

Healthy weight loss is a combination of diet and exercising. But you don't need to make any drastic changes to gain your weight goal. Small, sensible swaps everyday can make a huge difference. One can reduce overall calorie intake by replacing it with calorie dense foods. This will help you have a balanced and satisfying alternative meal, improve your nutritional intake, and support long term weight management.

**WHY SMART SWAPS WORK**

- They cut back on empty calories (from sugars, refined carbs, excess fats) while keeping meals filling and nutritious.
- They increase satiety which helps reduce overeating and cravings.
- Over time, they support stable energy levels, better digestion, and improved blood-sugar control, which together help make weight loss sustainable.

**HOW TO MAKE IT PRACTICAL**

- **Start with one swap at a time:** Introduce one or two changes then build gradually – e.g., switch white rice to brown/millet.
- **Focus on whole foods:** Include grains, pulses, vegetables, nuts and seeds, rather than processed or packaged snacks and meals.
- **Balance meals:** Aim for a good mix of complex carbs, lean protein (or plant-based protein), healthy fats, and fibre, to stay full and nourish your body.
- **Be consistent, not perfect:** Occasional indulgences are fine. The key is to have a majority of your meals swapped with the healthier alternative.
- **Monitor portion sizes:** Even healthy foods can add up. Watch portions, especially for calorie-dense items like nuts, seeds or oils.

**CONCLUSION**

Smart food swaps do not mean deprivation. They're about making mindful, wholesome choices that support your goals. Over time, these changes stack up: fewer empty calories, better nutrition, improved metabolic health, and sustainable weight loss.

By Madhura P Behki, nutrition expert, cult – a fitness and wellness platform

## WHAT WHEN WHY WHERE

### Yum Yum

Treat yourself to some pho-tastic Asian food that boasts bold flavours, colourful dishes and an intentionally crafted bar menu. From truffle edamame dumplings, kung pao cottage cheese and spicy salmon maki, to classic desserts such as lava cake and hazelnut mousse, there is something for everyone.

**WHEN:** December 8, 12pm onwards **WHERE:** Foo, The Orion Mall, Brigade Gateway, Rajajinagar **CALL:** 91522 11532

### Beauty Within

Experience the realm of abstract art at the solo exhibition 'Beauty Isn't The Point: A Collection of Non-Objective Works', curated by RB Murari. Go beyond the surface, and explore how colour, form and textured narrative shape compelling and transformative art.

**WHEN:** December 8, 10am
**WHERE:** Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, Seshadripuram
**CALL:** 80222 61816

### Splash and Flash

Unleash your creativity at this neon painting workshop. Get handsy with immersive, high-contrast colours, textures, and light effects, and make paintings full of spunk and moxie. No prior experience needed.

**WHEN:** December 8, 1pm
**WHERE:** Chelvies Coffee Roastery, Jeevan Bima Nagar
**DETAILS:** highape.com

### Relax and Recharge

Catch a much-needed break at this recreation hub with sleeping pods, a swimming pool, a rain dance, a gym, yoga and much more. The event offers activities and amenities suitable for people of all ages and interests.

**WHEN:** December 8, 1.30pm
**WHERE:** Esotto Recreation Hub, Whitefield
**DETAILS:** highape.com

### Cinematic Tales

Watch Céline Sciamma's acclaimed film *Petite Maman*, a story that takes place through a child's eyes, exploring memory and the mother-daughter relationship. Tender and cinematic, the film weaves emotion and storytelling into a poignant, unforgettable experience.

**WHEN:** December 8, 6.30pm
**WHERE:** Bangalore International Centre, Domlur
**DETAILS:** bangaloreinternationalcentre.org

### Brush & Chill

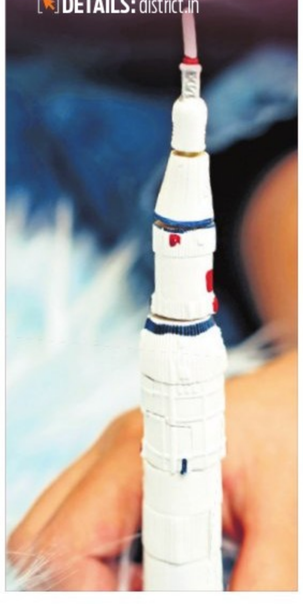
Enjoy a hands-on Kalamkari art session where you play with traditional motifs, free-flow patterns and simple storytelling elements. All materials are provided and you finish with a bright, frame-ready artwork to take home. The event is priced at ₹549.

**WHEN:** December 8, 6pm **WHERE:** Hobby Ghar, Chamrajpet **CALL:** 95355 55644

### Science In Action

Let your electrifying curiosity take shape through mind-bending experiments, thrilling demonstrations and hands-on scientific fun. Engage in workshops where you can be the scientist for your project. Whether you are a beginner or a scientist in the periphery, keep an 'ion' it!

**WHEN:** December 8, 10am onwards
**WHERE:** The MadLabs, Jayamahal Road
**DETAILS:** district.in



## EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

@XpressBengaluru/@tniefeatures
bengalurucityexpress@gmail.com
@xpress_bengaluru

## ARTCORNER

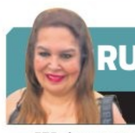
# SWEET GOAN DUSK

Goan artist Thomas Fernandes paints a heartfelt tribute to his grandmother, recalling her warm alle belle (Goan pancakes) on slow summer evenings

Smita Agarwal, Abhay Kewadkar and Amandeep Kaur

Sita Lekshmi and Aloma Lobo

# CONFUSING AND CHEERY



**RUBINATIONS**
**Rubi Chakravarti**
*Writer, actor and funny girl*

AS we near the end of the year, I am confused about how I should feel. I know that I struggled through the year as I battled my personal demons and health issues. But as I look back, I see myself being counselled as well as playing the role of a counsellor for many of my friends. I remember a couple of years ago, on one of my trips overseas, I had the opportunity to listen to a standup comic who joked about how men and women behave so differently when in trouble. He said that as women, we form 'packs' and even in a restaurant, we never go alone to the restroom. Our pack mentality spills over even if one of the 'pack members' is sick or emotionally overwrought. We cover them with our jackets, keep nosy boyfriends/husbands away and 'calm' the situation down. Women's solidarity is very strong and real! We tend to counsel each other and are mostly empaths with solidarity. Despite this support system, I have seen a lot of us do a downward spiral this year, and it's distressing. It looks like a never-ending stream of bad juju. I remember going out to a perfectly fun dinner and meeting up with friends I hadn't seen in a while. From a perfectly fun conversation, the topic turned to my best friend, who passed away due to cancer, and now another 'bff' was battling it. I just burst into tears at dinner, feeling alone, guilty and helpless.

So, December, like the many months before, is turning out to be a hard one. Then again, so many young 'uns are getting married. Their parents, who are my friends, are both excited and weary. Life has indeed turned into an uphill climb, and yet, it is impossible not to get into the cheer of the season. After the spate of cake-mixings, it is now the turn of 'tree-lightings'! I did attend the one at the beautifully decorated Ritz-Carlton. It was full of cheer and Christmas carols, which got louder as more eggnog and mulled wine was consumed.

Marc Lamy, Consul General of France in Bengaluru, in partnership with the Bangalore Wine Club member/winemaker Abhay Kewadkar, pulled off a superlative evening, 'A toast to French Terroir' on a chilly evening at the rooftop of ITC Gardenia. We tasted a French wine trail from Alsace, Bordeaux, Provence and more. The wine was superb and the company even better, as the creme de la creme of Bangalore society sipped and swirled the fabulous Madeira. Women in chic silks and men in blazers gave the evening a festive air. Many members wore their French berets to give the evening an authentic ambience. The food and service were spot on, and it was wonderful to taste and savour both the wine and food in a quasi-formal setting, as a rigid table seating doesn't give the members and guests a chance to interact as much. I must admit (though I initially resented the snobbery) that the French really know how to make their wines 'la meilleure'!

I was invited to check out the new 'R Bar' at the Renaissance Hotel on Race Course Road, followed by the proverbial tree-lighting. The hotel is now run by a dynamic female GM Sita Lekshmi, and her enthusiasm and hands-on attitude reflects in the revamped hotel. There are more than seven lady GMs in Bangalore alone! Viva-Womanhood!

*(The writer's views are personal)*

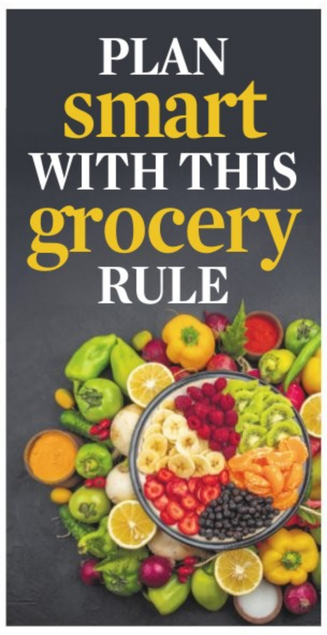
**NUTRIWISE**
**Sadhvika Srinivas**

**(The writer is the director and chief nutritionist at LivStack Health and Performance, Chennai)**

Research shows that people who plan their meals have better diet quality, higher fruit and vegetable intake, and improved weight management. The 5-4-3-2-1 grocery rule is a simple framework that helps bridge that gap using evidence-based nutrition principles.

### 5: Vegetables & fruits

Different colours represent different phytochemicals, antioxidants that support immunity, gut health, and recovery. For eg, green vegetables offer folate and magnesium, orange vegetables provide beta-carotene, and red fruits supply lycopene, all of which play roles in reducing inflammation. Encouraging people to select five different types of fruits and vegetables ensures they receive a wide spectrum of vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants throughout the week.




### 4: Protein sources

Protein is also essential for hormonal health, satiety, and metabolic function. Consuming a variety of protein sources helps distribute amino acids more evenly across meals, improving muscle protein synthesis. The 5-4-3-2-1 rule helps in choosing four protein-rich foods, eggs, chicken, fish, lentils, Greek yogurt, paneer, tofu, or chickpeas. A mix of animal and plant proteins ensures coverage of essential amino acids, micronutrients like B12 and iron, and gut-friendly fibres in legumes.

### 3: Carbohydrate staples

Those who consume adequate carbs before and after exercise perform better and recover faster. The framework suggests choosing three carb staples for the week, rice, oats, potatoes, whole-wheat bread, or pasta. Rotating these ensures balanced energy intake, nutrient variety, and prevents monotony in meal planning.

### 2: Healthy fats

Healthy fats support hormone production, brain function, and absorption of fat-soluble vitamins (A, D, E, K). Selecting two fat sources, such as nuts, seeds, olive oil, ghee, helps clients incorporate beneficial fats without overconsuming energy-dense foods.

### 1: Snack or hydration booster

Snacking is often where unplanned calories and poor choices creep in. The 5-4-3-2-1 rule ends with choosing one intentional snack or hydration aid, such as dark chocolate, a protein bar, Greek yogurt cup, coconut water, or an electrolyte drink. This prevents impulsive buying and ensures that snacking supports goals rather than derails them.

## NUGGETS

### City to celebrate contemporary art on Dec 12

The India Art Festival returns to the city from December 12–14 at Crown Pavilions, Palace Grounds. Over three days, it will showcase 3,000+ artworks from 300 artists and 20+ galleries, including paintings, sculptures, photography, ceramics, installations and traditional forms. The Artists' Pavilion will feature 200+ independent artists alongside 100 established names, while the curated exhibition 'Brushstrokes of Karnataka' by KS Appajaiah highlights the State's landscapes and heritage. The festival will bring together emerging talent with masters, offering a rich, immersive experience for collectors and art enthusiasts alike.

### Seasonal menu brings Burmese noodles to fore

Burma Burma has rolled out its winter menu, Comfort Is Khowsuey, available until Jan 31. The lineup includes six regional Khowsuey bowls which feature in-house noodles, slow-simmered broths and customisable toppings. The restaurant has also added five zero-proof cocktails. The menu is offered across all outlets and through food delivery apps.


## SMART ADS

**INDEPENDENT VILLA FOR SALE**

Architect designed independent villa in a gated community for sale in North Bangalore. Recent construction ready to move in. 4300 sq ft, 4 BHK. One plus two floors. Society with all modern amenities. Interested parties please

Contact
Ph: 8506812223

**SITE FOR SALE**

40x60 before International Airport BIAAPA approved, 40 feet Road Rs.5900/- Per Sqft close to Defence & Aerospace park for more details Call:

BUYING AND Selling of properties in and around Bangalore. only genuine Sellers/ Buyers Call: "Sri Ganesh Estate"
9845286505

**FOR LEASE**

20,000 Sq.ft. R.C.C. Area Comprising of 3 Floors in Newly Built World Class Building in Prestigious Industrial cum Business Park, Phase-1, Chandigarh. Most Suitable For Car Showroom, IT, Pharma, Corp. Office, MNCs & Others.
Ample parking space
Brokers Also Welcome.
Contact:
9815213422
Email: trendzchd@gmail.com

**TO LET 1950 SQFT READY NEW OFFICE**

with Luxurious Interiors Plug & Play Suitable For Office with all Infrastructures

Suitability: Perfect For Corporate Offices, Startup Offices, IT/TES, Consulting & More

- Refundable Advance 5Lakhs.
- Rent 70K + Maintenance.
- Nonrefundable Interiors Amt 25Lakh.

Prime Location Opp to RR Nagar Gopalan Arcade Mall, SS Plaza 3rd Floor Close to Metro, Bus Stand.

More Details Contact:
9741433444

**LAND FOR LEASE BANGALORE & MYSORE**

We Are Looking Prime Commercial Land (Empty Plot) For Long-Term Lease In Top Locations Across Bangalore And Mysore.

- ☑ High footfall area
- ☑ Minimum area: 1500 sq. ft. and above
- ☑ High-visibility commercial zones
- x Real estate brokers, please excuse

DIRECT OWNERS
CONTACT: (11 AM TO 7 PM)
+91 7483 233755

**Premium Office Space for Rent**

on Lalbagh Road, Bangalore; 6500 Sqft. (G+2) Ample Parking, 100KV Transformer + Generator. Fully Furnished, Perfect Vastu & Road on 3 Sides
CALL: 9845205215

**PG Building Available for Rent**

40 Room's Avilable First Preference to Software It Companies Ready to Occupy Near Vittasandra Begur
Contact: 7795063380

**Site for Sale**

1800 sq.ft, A Khatha, only 150 feet from Hosur Main Road, near Bommanahalli Metro Station. Suitable for hotel, automobile service center, nursing home, travel office and PG more.
Contact: 7676666616

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS GROUP
For Classified Advertisements Contact:
9448689473
9886550650
080-22866893


# THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS CLASSIFIEDS

## PUBLIC NOTICE

CHANGE OF NAME

**AFFIDAVIT CUM INDEMNITY**

I, We, **LOHITH B R**, Major **And HEMALATHA K S**, Major , both are R/at No.254/17 , C/o Somasekhar C , Mullur Road, Subhash Nagar ,Krishnarajanagara , Mysuru , Karnataka - 571602 , Presently camped at Bengaluru,do hereby solemnly affirm and state on oath as follows:- State that our true and correct full name **LOHITH B R, AND HEMALATHA K S** we state and confirm that we are the Husband and Wife in relationship and we are the parents of **ARYAAN SARTHAK L.** changed the name of my minor son aged 6 years **(DOB: 30/07/2019)**, from **KUSHIL LOHI to ARYAAN SARTHAK L** vide affidavit dated **07.11.2025** sworn before Notary **Gopalakrishna** At Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**I, YOGITA NARAYAN,** D/o Narayan Srinivas, Age 33 years, Residing at No.145, SRIVATSAM, 26th Main Road, Opp to Sangolli Rayanna Park, Judical Layout, Allasadra, Bengaluru-65, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SUNITHA NARAYAN TO YOGITA NARAYAN** . vide affidavit dated 06/12/2025 sworn before advocate & Notary N. Sandhya, Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **MUZAFFER MOHAMMED**, R/o No. 136, 9th Cross, Shivaji Main Road, Narasimha Raja Moholla Post, Mysore-570007 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **MOHAMMED MUZAFFER GHULAM MOHAMMED** to **MUZAFFER MOHAMMED**, henceforth I shall be known and called as **MUZAFFER MOHAMMED** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 3rd Dec. 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MEER HASSAN** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **MAHENDRA KUMAR JAIN,** S/o Lal Chand, R/at No. 235, 2nd Floor, Arlegudi Compound, Cottonpet, Bangalore-560 053 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **MAHENDRA KUMAR DELADIYA** to **MAHENDRA KUMAR JAIN**, henceforth I shall be known and called as **MAHENDRA KUMAR JAIN** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 3rd Dec. 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **H.K. GOPALAGOWDA** at Bangalore

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**I, POOJA V VAIKUNTHE** Date of Birth: 02.07.1996, D/O ANANTH NAGENHALLI, presently residing at #403, 4th Floor, SSV Pearla, S S Layout, Gulmohar Enclave, Munnekolala, Marathahalli, Bengaluru, Karnataka - 560037, have changed my name from **POOJA A NAGENHALLI** to **POOJA V VAIKUNTHE,** vide affidavit dated 6/12/2025 sworn to before K V Jagannath Reddy Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **MANJUNATH KARANTH**, aged about 50 years, S/o Late K Ramakrishna Karanth, resident of No.1/2, Lalitha Nivas, 8th Main Road, CHBCS Layout, Vijayanagar, Bangalore, Karnataka-560040, hereby declare that my names **MANJUNATH KARANTH and MANJUNATH** belongs to one and the same person, henceforth, I have decided to continue my name in future as **MANJUNATH KARANTH** vide Affidavit Dated 06-12-2025, sworn to before Advocate and Notary Public **Deepa .M**, Bengaluru

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, SUGRITHA RAJOO **MARIA JUDE** (Old Name), R/at No.104/1, 8th Main Pillanna Garden, Bengaluru-560045 have changed my name to **MARIA JUDE** (New Name), vide affidavit dt:06.12.2025 before Notary **K.V. Mani** Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **NAMIT KOTHARI**, S/o Parasmal Kothari, age 47 years, R/at No. 1/1, 72nd Cross, 5th Main, Jedara Halli, 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560 010 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **NAMIT KUMAR KOTHARI** to **NAMIT KOTHARI**, henceforth I shall be known and called as **NAMIT KOTHARI** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 6th Dec. 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **L. VEENA** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **H.G. GOWRI,** W/o H.S. Girish, age 26 years, presently R/at No. 154, 1st Floor, Back Side House, 4th Main, 4th Cross, Srinivasanagar, Bangalore-560 050 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **NANDINI C.M** to **H.G. GOWRI**, henceforth I shall be known and called as **H.G. GOWRI** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 1st July 2024, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MAMATHA .N.K** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **B. SATHISH** S/o Venkataswamy B, age 55 years, R/at No. 207, 5th Cross, Bhasyam Nagar, Srirampuram, Near Sriramputam Police Station, Bangalore-560021 do hereby declare that all the names **i.e. SATHISH B, B SATHISH** and **BANDARU SATYANARAYANA** are one and the same and refers to me only, henceforth I shall be known and called as **B SATHISH** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 06-12-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **ONKARAPPA .N.R** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**I. J. Manasa,** aged 18 years. D/o. A. Janardhan Reddy, residing at No. 53, Old Channasandra Road. Dodda Banaswadi Bengaluru - 560043, have changed my name from **J. MANASA** to **J. DEEPIKA REDDY,** vide affidavit dated 2/12/2025 sworn to before Anitha Bai Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **RAZIA BEGUM**, (D-o-B: 24/05/1954), W/o. Shri. (Late) Syed Noor Ahamed, resident of No. 76 SNA MANZIL, Chikkabettahalli, Major Sandeep Unikrishnan Road, Vidyaranyapura Post, Bengaluru- 560097, KA India, have changed my name from **RAZIA BEGUM SYED NOOR AHAMED to RAZIA BEGUM**, vide affidavit Sl. No.592, Pg. No.64, Vol-01; dated: 06/12/2025, sworn before Notary Public, T. C. THIMMARAJA, Bangalore. Henceforth, I shall be known as **RAZIA BEGUM** for all future purposes.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **AEMEN FATHIMA BAYUNUS,** D/o Faisal Bayunus, age 28 years, r/at No. 24, Old No. 107, 1st Floor, 6th Cross, Old Police Station Road, Appanna Block, V V Nagar, R T Nagar Post, Bangalore-560 032 do hereby declare that all the names i.e. **AEMEN FATHIMA BAYUNUS, AEMEN FATHIMA FAISAL** and **AEMEN BAYUNUS** are one and the same and refers to me only, henceforth I shall be known and called as **AEMEN FATHIMA BAYUNUS** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 06-12-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **LEELA** at Bangalore.

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, **RAMYA RAO,** D/o Rajesh Rao, aged about 32 years, R/at #303, 2nd Floor, Srinivas Arcade, 16th Cross, Pat LYT, Bangalore North, Doorvaninagar, Bangalore North, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560016, do hereby declare that, my Aadhar Cardbearing No.5095 8097 4270, my father name mentioned as **RAJESH S** and in Pan Card bearing No. AYPPR6664J my father name mentioned as **RAJESH RAO.** These both name are one and the same and both are belongs to my father. In future for my all documents I will use to record my father name as **RAJESH RAO** This fact is identified vide affidavit dated: 06/12/2025 duly sworn before Notary, **K. G. Rajpal** Advocate and Notary

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **RANGANATHA. T** S/o. Thimmappa, aged 45 years, residing at No. 104, 1st 'E' Main, Poojanamma Temple Road, Goraguntepalya, Yeshwanthpura, Bangalore-560022, do hereby declare that my Father name is recorded as **THIMMAPPA** in my Aadhar Card, Pan Card & other documents. Due to oversight my father name is mentioned as **THIMMAIAH** in my SSLC Marks card. Wherein both **THIMMAPPA** and **THIMMAIAH** belongs to one person only. Henceforth he shall be called **THIMMAPPA** in all documents. Therefore vide affidavit **dated 05.12.2025** sworn before Notary, **V. Rajashekhara,** Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**I, SUVARNA M.R.** Wife of Mr. H.N. Venkatesh Murthy, No. 671836A, Rank Ex SGT, residing at E504, Hoysala Habitat Apartments, Nagenahalli, Yelahanka, Bangalore 560064, that I have changed my name from **SUVERNA VENKATESH MURTHY** to **SUVARNA M.R.** for all purposes., vide affidavit dated 6/12/2025 sworn to before G R Ravichandra Reddy Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **ARSHIYA SULTHANA** and resident of No. 94/2, 4th Cross, 'C' Block, Mattadahallai, R.T. Nagar Post, Bangalore North, Bangalore -560 032, Karnataka State, INDIA have changed my name to **ARSHIYA SULTANA** vide Affidavit dated 05/12/2025 sworn before advocate and notary A.R. Nagendra, Channapatna Tq.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**I, (OLD NAME) MOHMMED MUJAHID ULLA KHAN,** Residing at No. 450, 2nd Cross, 3rd Main Road, Gangondanahalli, Bangalore-560039, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) MOHMMED MUJAHID ULLA KHAN** to **(NEW NAME) MUJAHID ULLA KHAN** vide affidavit Dated 01/12/2025 sworn before Notary M.K.Devaki, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**I, (OLD NAME) KOMAL GOYAL.N,** Residing at No. 5-10, Sudaamini Residency Chelekere Kalyananagar Post, Bangalore-560043, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) KOMAL GOYAL.N** to **(NEW NAME) KOMAL GOYAL** vide affidavit Dated 06/12/2025 sworn before Notary M.K.Devaki, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **SAMSUN,** R/at No. 147, 4th Cross, 1st Stage, Kuvempunagar, Jalahalli East, Bengaluru-560 013 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SHAMSUN NESHA** to **SAMSUN,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SAMSUN** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 04-12-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **S. PRAKASH** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **JAYA RAJESH,** R/o No. 324, Devaragam, 7th Cross, Unique Rays Layout, Kada Agrahara Road, Near Ayyappa Temple, Bidarahalli Hobli, Byappanahalli, Bengaluru-560 049 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **JAYALAKSHMI RAJAGOPAL** to **JAYA RAJESH,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **JAYA RAJESH** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 6th Dec. 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **SRINATHA .D.R** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **SWATHI BANGERA**, D/o. Sri Sanjeeva, Aged about 33 years, Residing at Flat No. 011, 'B' Block, D.S. Max Skylish Apartment, Sarjapura-Attibele Main Road, Near Exide Gate, Billapura, P.O. Sarjapura, Bengaluru - 562 125, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SWATHI SANJEEVA** to **SWATHI BANGERA** vide affidavit dated 03.12.2025 sworn to before Anitha Bai, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **YESWANTH NAGABABU POTHUGANTI**, S/o. Late. Srinivasa Rao, Age 35 Years, Residing at No.5, Subanna Layout, Doddabommasandra, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore, Karnataka - 560097, have changed my minor daughter's name from **SRESHTA SREE POTHUGUNTI** to **HETVIKA SRESHTASRI POTHUGUNTI,** vide affidavit dated 6/12/2025 sworn to before D S Chandrakanth Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **ALBAN SANTOSH PRABHU,** aged 56 years, S/o M.Joseph (Late), R/o. 171/172, M. M. Krupa 1 Apartment, Flat No. 302, 3rd Floor, Henur Main Road, Kacharkanahalli, Bangalore-560084, have changed my name as **SANTOSH PRABHU**, vide affidavit, dated. 5/12/2025 before Notary **S. I. BALAGURU,** Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**I, (OLD NAME) NASEEM KHANUM AMAN,** Residing at No. 450, 2nd Cross, 3rd Main Road, Gangondanahalli, Bangalore-560039, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) NASEEM KHANUM AMAN** to **(NEW NAME) NASEERA KHANUM** vide affidavit Dated 01/12/2025 sworn before Notary M.K.Devaki, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **SAI NIRUPAMA,** D/o M. Ramanujam, age 25 years, R/at Flat No. 001, Ashraya-77, Krishnam Raju Layout, Behind Apollo Hospital Bilekahalli, Bengaluru-560 076 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SAI NIRUPAMA RAMANUJAM** to **SAI NIRUPAMA**, henceforth I shall be known and called as **SAI NIRUPAMA** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 6th Dec. 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **D.K. RAMESHAPPA** at Bangalore.

**AFFIDAVIT**

I, **SHANTHA KUMAR .J,** S/o Jayarama, age 40 years, R/at NO. 56-1, Maruthi Temple, Gattahalli, Huskur, Anekal Taluk, Benagluru-99 do hereby declare that both the names of my son i.e. **DHRUVA TEJA .S** and **DAIVIK TEJA .S** are one and the same and refers to my son only, henceforth he shall be known and called as **DAIVIK TEJA .S** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 26th Nov. 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **P. ANURADHA** at Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **SYED ISHTIYAKH AHMED**, residing at No. 169, 9th Cross, R.K Hegde Nagar, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560077, have changed my name to **KABIRUDDIN AURANGAZEB**, vide affidavit dated 05.12.2025, sworn before notary Sivakumara M.N, Bangalore.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, Sri. A R Raj Kumar Uruff A.R.Rajakumar, aged about 57 years, S/o. late. D Ramegowda, R/at No. 60/B, BEL Layout, Vidya Kishore Kendra School Road, Byadrahalli 1st Stage, Magadi Main Road, Bangalore North, Bangalore - 560 091. In my documents my name is mentioned as A R Raj Kumar & A R Rajakumar. I Declare My name **A.R.Raj Kumar Uruff A R Rajakumar** are one & the same person. Vide affidavit dated 24.11.2025. Sworn before Advocate & Notary Devaraja E.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **MOHITHA** W/o. Krishnamurthy .K, aged about 38 years, R/at. No. 681, 6th Main Road, 7th Cross, 5th Block, Near Annapoorneshwarinagar, Bhuvaneshwarinagar, Kathriguppe, Bangalore-560085, do hereby declare that Change of my name in my son's educational records who is minor in age on behalf of him I am issuing this notification as a natural guardian the changes required stated below, wrongly Registered name **MONIKA** Required changed name **MOHITHA**, vide affidavit dated 05.12.2025, sworn to before S. Vijayakumar, Advocate & Notary, Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**I, ABHISHEK R ,** S/o Ramakrishna, Age 27 years, Residing at No.310, 3rd Main, 4th Cross, Lakshmipura, Bengaluru-19, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **ABHISHEKGOWDA R TO ABHISHEK R**. vide affidavit dated 06/12/2025 sworn before advocate & Notary N. Sandhya, Bengaluru.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

I, **MEHAR TAJ SAMAD** D/o Mohammed Haniff R/a No.05, Opp 297,6th A Main, V V Nagar, Bangalore-560032,have changed my name from **MEHAR TAJ SAMAD D/o Mohammed Haniff** to **MEHER TAJ D/o Mohammed Haniff Shaik**, vide affidavit dt. 06.12.2025 before Notary **S.I. BALAGURU**, Bangalore.

**ಪ್ರಮಾಣ ಪತ್ರ**

ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು–560082, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಉತ್ತರಹಳ್ಳಿ ಹೋಬಳಿ, ಸೋಮನಹಳ್ಳಿ, 1ನೇ ಬ್ಲಾಕ್, ನಂ.186 ರಲ್ಲಿ ವಾಸವಾಗಿರುವ ತಿಪ್ಪಾರೆಡ್ಡಿರವರ ಮಗನಾದ ಸುಮಾರು 54 ವರ್ಷ ವಯಸ್ಸಿನ ಶ್ರೀ ಆರ್.ಟಿ. ಚಿಕ್ಕಆದಿರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಆದ ನಾನು ಪ್ರಮಾಣೀಕರಿಸುವುದೇನೆಂದರೆ ನನ್ನ ಹೆಸರುಗಳಾದ ಆರ್.ಟಿ. ಚಿಕ್ಕಆದಿರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಮತ್ತು ನರಸಿಂಹರೆಡ್ಡಿ ಇವರೆಡೂ ನನ್ನ ಹೆಸರುಗಳೇ ಆಗಿದ್ದು, ಇನ್ನು ಮುಂದೆ ನನ್ನ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ವ್ಯವಹಾರಗಳಲ್ಲೂ ನನ್ನ ಹೆಸರನ್ನು **ಆರ್.ಟಿ. ಚಿಕ್ಕಆದಿರೆಡ್ಡಿ** ಎಂದು ವ್ಯವಹರಿಸಿಕೊಂಡು ಹೋಗುತ್ತೇನೆ ಎಂದು ದಿನಾಂಕ 27ನೇ ನವೆಂಬರ್ 2025ರಂದು ನೋಟರಿ ಮತ್ತು ವಕೀಲರಾದ **ವಿ. ಶ್ರೀನಿವಾಸ ರೆಡ್ಡಿ**ರವರ ಸಮಕ್ಷಮದಲ್ಲಿ ದೃಢೀಕರಿಸಿರುತ್ತೇನೆ.

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**I, JNANESWARI KUBSAD,** daughter of Chandrashekarappa, residing at 793, 3rd Floor, 11th Block, BSK 6th Stage, Near Ring Road, Ganakal, Bengaluru South, Karnataka, 560 060, have changed my name to **PARVATHI VEERESH** consequent to my marriage to Shri. Veeresha Murthy B on 02/01/1997. I shall henceforth be known as **PARVATHI VEERESH** for all future purposes. This change is affirmed vide Affidavit dated 01.12.2025 sworn before a Notary Public, Bengaluru."

**CHANGE OF NAME**

**I, Bhargavi Hemanth,** daughter of Srinivasa D.V. and Kathyayini H.C., aged about 49 years, currently residing at #435, 17th Cross, 6th Phase, 35th Main Road, J.P.Nagar, Bangalore - 560078, have changed my name from **Bhargavi Hemanth** to **Bhargavi Shrie,** vide affidavit dated 6/12/2025 sworn to before Ravi Kumar V Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

Shivarajkumar and Gummadi Narsaiah

# *Gummadi Narsaiah* biopic feels like the continuation of a legacy: Shivarajkumar

The Century Star spoke about leading the biopic of CPI Leader Gummadi Narsaiah

CE FEATURES

THE recent muhurat for the *Gummadi Narsaiah* biopic felt more like the start of a conversation than a film launch. It focused on leadership, responsibility, and the lasting impact of humility. Directed by Parameshwar Hivrale, this biopic captures the life of former CPI MLA Gummadi Narsaiah. He is remembered not for his grandeur but for his determination. He turned down cars, chose to ride a bicycle, and became a true representative of the people.

For Shivarajkumar, who stars in the film, the story resonated deeply. "Just like Gummadi Narsaiah, my father also served the people. When I visited Narsaiah garu's home, I felt like I had stepped into my father's (Dr Rajkumar) world. Portraying him feels like a continuation of a legacy."

This project marks Shivarajkumar's first significant role in Telugu, and he is embracing the challenge sincerely. "I'm learning Telugu and will dub for myself. That connection to the voice matters for a story like this."

Director Parameshwar Hivrale, who has been studying Narsaiah's life for years, believes the film will act as a reminder of what politics should be. "Politics is not business; it is responsibility. Narsaiah garu spent 20 years in public office without earning a rupee for himself. We need to share such stories, not as myths but as truths."

The director believes that the all-important aspect of the biopic was the right casting. "A great story deserves a great hero, and I'm grateful he believed in this film." Producer N Suresh Reddy shares the same confidence in the project's mission. "Shivarajkumar is a hero with a genuine heart. Starting the shoot in Palvancha, a place known for activism, feels poetic. I believe the film can inspire political change or at least provoke thought."

Through it all, the man at the centre of the story remains humble. "I am not a great leader. I only hope the film conveys my beliefs. Change must begin within us; that is all I wish people to remember," says Narsaiah. The film, which has gone on floors, has cinematographer Satish Mutyala, editor Satya Giduturi, and composer Suresh Bobbili as part of the biopic's crew.

The trailer hints at a high-stakes thriller as the film, directed by Vijay Karthikeya, gears up for a Christmas release

Sudeep

# THE ENTIRE SHOOT OF *MARK* HAPPENED IN JUST 4 MONTHS: SUDEEP

Team Mark

A SHARADHAA

THE much-awaited trailer of *Mark*, starring Kiccha Sudeep, has finally been released, creating a wave of excitement among fans and industry insiders. The launch event saw the presence of the cast, crew, and notable figures from the Kannada film fraternity, making it a grand affair.

Sudeep plays Police Officer Ajay Markandeya, also known as '*Mark*,' who must rescue certain kidnapped children within 18 hours. The trailer plunges audiences into the dangerous world of human trafficking and political manipulation. The ensemble cast also includes Vikranth, Yogi Babu, Guru Somasundaram, Roshni Prakash, Archana Kottige, Pratap Narayan, Raghu Ramanakoppa, Mahantesh Hiremath, and Ashwin Hassan.

Music is composed by Ajaneesh B Loknath, cinematography is handled by Shekar Chandra, and production design is by Shivakumar J. The high-octane action sequences have been created by Stunt Silva, Supreme Sundar, Ravi Verma, Kevin Kumar, Vikram Mor, and Subramani, while choreography is taken care by Shobhi Paulraj, Dinesh, and Rajakalai Kumar.

Speaking at the trailer launch, Sudeep said, "Everybody had one agenda, and that was to complete the film in a stipulated time. For me, it was not pressure, it was a challenge. My past experiences helped me navigate this journey. With *Mark* releasing along with Arjun Janya's debut 45, starring Shivarajkumar, Upendra, and Raj B Shetty, it is a celebration. I wish every film in December brings people to theatres and exhibitors are happy."

He added, "*Mark*'s journey took four months and five days, 107 days of shooting, 166 call sheets, across 80 to 90 locations, with 10 to 20 sets built. Every member, from art director Shivakumar to cinematographer Shekar Chandra, ensured the vision came alive. Vijay Karthikeya, worked with me for the first time in *Max*, and now with *Mark*, he has grown immensely. It is a different character arc and a fresh narrative."

Producer Rockline Venkatesh said, "After watching the trailer and songs, I finally breathed easy. Sudeep brings energy and happiness to the set, and all the actors have performed wonderfully."

Adding to the excitement, Priya Sudeep, Kiccha Sudeep's wife, will distribute the film through Supriyannvi Studio in collaboration with KRG Studio, *marking* her debut in film distribution. Produced by Sathya Jyothi Films, *Mark* is scheduled to release on December 25.

# *The Boys Season 5* gets a premiere date

CE FEATURES

AMAZON Prime Video has officially locked in the beginning of the end for The Boys. The hit satirical superhero series will return for its fifth and final season on April 8, kicking off with a two-episode premiere. New instalments will drop weekly, leading up to the series finale on May 20. Karl Urban, Jack Quaid, Erin Moriarty, Antony Starr, Laz Alonso, Jessie T Usher, Chace Crawford, Tomer Capone, Karen Fukuhara, Colby Minifie, Cameron Crovetti, Susan Heyward and Valorie Curry return alongside Padalecki and Ackles. Adapted from Garth Ennis and Darick Robertson's best-selling comic book series, *The Boys* is created by showrunner Eric Kripke.

# Rishi, Rithanya join hands for the first time in *Jawara*

CE FEATURES

RISHI and Rithanya, daughter of Duniya Vijay, team up for the first time in a film titled *Jawara*. The project started with a grand launch event. Directed by Pradeep Dalavayi, who previously directed Yella Kunni, the film is produced by Chidavrushabha. The launch included an emotional moment when Neelamma, who works at a crematorium, gave the first clap.

The cast includes seasoned performers Rangayana Raghu and Shruti in important roles. Raghu mentioned that his character occupies a peaceful, spiritual space and expressed happiness about acting with Shruti again. Shruti, playing Royal Meenakshi, added, "My character is at a place where life feels like it has reached its final chapter. It's meaningful."

*Jawara* marks Rithanya's debut as a leading lady, and she plays Bhoomi, a medical student, in the film. "I'm excited and grateful. Acting with big artists is a blessing. I truly feel lucky," says the actor.

Rishi, known for starring in Operation Alamelamma, steps into the role of Rudra in the film, and shares that he was instantly drawn to the script. "The moment Pradeep narrated the story, he already had the screenplay ready. He approaches the film like a creative leader," he noted.

Director Pradeep, who also written the dialogues, shared, "Raghu sir and Shruti ma'am were vital for this story. After watching Rithanya act in City Lights, I told Vijay about the script. He liked it and said the final decision should be hers, and she agreed."

The film features music by Dharmavish and cinematography by Halesh.

Rithanya and Rishi

# *Peotu* locks release date

CE FEATURES

WHILE Darshan's *The Devil* is getting all the attention from Kannada audiences this week, another film is gearing up for a release in the same window. *Peotu*, which is a rooted film, is set to hit the screens on December 12. The film is centred around the emotional, physical, and social impact of alcohol addiction. It examines what it means to fall, how one can rise, and the harsh stigma faced by those labelled as piyots.

In an interview, the team discussed why their film deserves attention, even with a major release happening at the same time. "One who doesn't need a specific time to drink, those who are drawn to alcohol, society calls them 'piyots'. I have seen addiction up close, but I have always wondered about the pain they endure and why they drink. This film is born from that curiosity and empathy," said director Karthik Raj.

Prashanth, who is distributing the film, said, "When Karthik said he wanted to release it during the same week as Darshan's Devil, everyone asked us where we got the courage from. But there is no point of comparison at all, right? Our content is different. We've secured 20 to 25 single-screens and around 15 multiplexes. After watching *The Devil*, give us a little boost by watching our film too."

Lahari Velu of the Lahari music label, who have bagged the audio rights, praised the film's meaningful focus. "Rehabilitation changes lives. Only when you step into rehab do you understand the struggle. This film carries that weight. We needed such a movie," he said. Lead actor Likhith, who immersed himself in the role, recalled the intense atmosphere of filming inside a rehab.

"Even thinking about it now is numbing. I have never touched alcohol, and this film strengthened that decision. I worked hard to ensure there is no blemish in my performance," said Likith.

Produced by Grace Fikma Company, the film also stars Ashwini Chaware as the female lead.

A still from the film

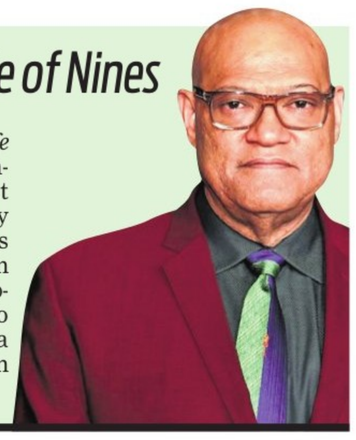
# Akshay Kumar-Saif Ali Khan's *Haiwaan* wraps filming

CE FEATURES

AKSHAY Kumar and Saif Ali Khan starrer *Haiwaan* was wrapped up on Sunday. The movie's production house, Thespian Films, took to social media on Sunday to share some pictures from the last day on sets.

*Haiwaan* is inspired by Priyadarshan's 2016 Malayalam thriller Oppam (2016), though with significant changes to both dialogue and screenplay. The original film featured Mohanlal, who will be making a cameo appearance in the new film, as a visually impaired man who becomes the unlikely protector of a judge's daughter. The film reunites the trio of Akshay, Saif, and Priyadarshan for the first time, and also the male leads on screen after 17 years since Tashan (2008). The film also features Saiyami Kher and Shriya Pilgaonkar.

# Laurence Fishburne to helm *The Rule of Nines*

CE FEATURES

ACTOR Laurence Fishburne, known for his roles in The Matrix franchise and Mission: Impossible III, among other titles, will once again go behind the camera for the upcoming film *The Rule of Nines*. He made his directorial debut with *Once in the Life* (2000). The new film stars Andre Holland of Moonlight fame and has a screenplay by John Connor. Fishburne was recently seen in the action thriller The Amateur, opposite Rami Malek. He is set to come back in the role of a vampire and barber-surgeon for The Witcher finale.